



NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

Cunninghame House,
Irvine.

19 September 2013

Cabinet

You are requested to attend a Meeting of the above mentioned Committee of North Ayrshire Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine on **WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2013** at **9.30 a.m.** to consider the undernoted business.

Yours faithfully

Elma Murray

Chief Executive

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE AND TIME

1. Declarations of Interest

Members are requested to give notice of any declarations of interest in respect of items of business on the Agenda.

2. Minutes (Page 7)

The accuracy of the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 10 September 2013 will be confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with Paragraph 7 (1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (copy enclosed).

GENERAL BUSINESS FOR DECISION

Reports by the Chief Executive

3. **Public Performance Reporting 2012/13 (Page 15)**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on public performance reporting and the draft Annual Performance Report 2012/13 (copy enclosed).
4. **Call In : Consultation on a Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill (Page 85)**
Submit report by the Chief Executive on the outcome of consideration by the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee of a Call In Request in relation to the consultation on a proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill (copy enclosed).

Reports by the Corporate Director for Development & Environment

5. **Regional Aid and the Assisted Areas Map 2014-20 (Page 117)**
Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on changes to Regional Aid Guidelines 2014-20 (copy enclosed).
6. **Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study (Action Plan) (Page 125)**
Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the preparation of an Action Programme associated with the production of the Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study (copy enclosed).
7. **Implementation of Waste Strategy 2012/16 (Page 131)**
Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the implementation of the Council's Waste Strategy (copy enclosed).
8. **Projects from Landfill Communities Fund 2013/14 (Page 145)**
Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on a programme of projects to be funded through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) 2013/14 (copy enclosed).

Reports by the Corporate Director for Education & Skills

9. **Housing Development at Eglinton Country Park (Page 161)**
Submit report by the Corporate Director (Education & Skills) on a proposed housing development at Eglinton Country Park (copy enclosed).

Reports by the Corporate Director for Finance & Corporate Support

10. **Revenue Budget 2013/14 : Budgetary Control Statement to 31 July 2013 (Page 173)**
Submit report by the Corporate Director (Finance & Corporate Support) of the revenue budgetary control position for the Council at 31 July 2013.(copy enclosed).

11. Capital Monitoring to 31 July 2013 (Page 205)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Finance & Corporate Support) of progress in delivering the Capital Investment Programme as at 31 July 2013 (copy enclosed).

Reports by the Corporate Director for Social Services and Health

12. Reform of Independent Living Fund (Page 231)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Social Services & Health) on the reform of the Independent Living Fund, the proposed consultation by the Scottish Government and implications for North Ayrshire Council. (copy enclosed).

13. North Ayrshire Carers Strategy (Page 235)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Social Services & Health) approval of the proposed Carers Strategy (copy enclosed).

CONTRACT APPROVAL

14. Housing Support Contracts (Page 273)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Social Services and Health) on a one year extension to the existing homeless support contracts (copy enclosed).

MINUTES

15. South West Hub Territory Partnership Board held on 6 June 2013 (Page 281)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Finance & Corporate Support) on the minutes of the Meeting of the South West Hub Territory Partnering Board held on 6 June 2013 (copy enclosed).

16. Economy and Employment Policy Board: Minutes of the meeting held on 19 August 2013 (Page 289)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the minutes of the Economy and Employment Policy Board held on 19 August 2013 (copy enclosed).

17. Ayrshire Economic Partnership: Minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2013 (Page 293)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the minutes of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership held on 21 August 2013 (copy enclosed).

18. Health and Social Care Policy Board : Minutes of Meeting held on 26 August 2013 (Page 299)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Social Services and Health) on the minutes of the Health and Social Care Policy Board meeting held on 26 August 2013 (copy enclosed).

19. Environment and Infrastructure Policy Board: Minutes of meeting held on 2 September 2013 (Page 305)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the minutes of the Environment and Infrastructure Policy Board held on 2 September 2013 (copy enclosed).

20. Brodick Pier Redevelopment Committee: Minutes of meeting held of 2 August 2013 (Page 315)

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the minutes of the Brodick Pier Redevelopment Committee held on 2 August 2013 (copy enclosed).

21. Urgent Items

Any other items which the Chair considers to be urgent.

Cabinet

Sederunt: **Elected Members**

Willie Gibson (Chair)
Alan Hill (Vice-Chair)
John Bruce
Marie Burns
Anthea Dickson
Tony Gurney
Alex McLean

Chair:

Attending:

Apologies:

Meeting Ended:

Cabinet
10 September 2013

Irvine, 10 September 2013 - At a meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council at 2.30 p.m. in Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Present

Willie Gibson, Alan Hill, John Bruce, Marie Burns, Tony Gurney and Alex McLean; G. Smith (Teaching Representative); and E. Hawthorn and D. Flynn (Youth Representatives).

In Attendance

E. Murray, Chief Executive, C. Kirk, Corporate Director, M. Docherty, Head of Education (3-18), S. Quinn, Head of Service Development and A. Sutton, Head of Community and Culture (Education and Skills); I. Colvin, Corporate Director, S. Gault, Head of Children, Families and Criminal Justice and A. Adrain, Interim Head of Housing (Social Services and Health); Y. Baulk, Head of Finance and Property, G. Macgregor, Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development, T. Burns, Asset Manager and T. Reaney, Procurement Manager (Finance and Corporate Support); R. McCutcheon, Head of Environment and Related Services and A. Laurenson, Team Manager (Regeneration) (Development and Environment); and K. Dyson, Communications Officer and M. Anderson, Committee Services Officer (Democratic and Administration Services) (Chief Executive's Service).

Chair

Councillor Gibson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence

Anthea Dickson and Church Representatives E. Higton, M. Fraser and Very Reverend M. Canon McManus.

1. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest by Members in terms of Standing Order 16 and Section 5 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors.

2. Minutes

The accuracy of the Minute of the meeting of Cabinet, held on 27 August 2013, was confirmed and the Minutes signed in accordance with paragraph 7(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973.

3. North Ayrshire's Response to "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach"

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) which (a) reported on the "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach" report which takes forward the Scottish Government's Manifesto commitment to create the conditions in which every child in Scotland will learn two languages in addition to their own mother tongue; (b) outlined the Council's response in terms of language learning provision in North Ayrshire primary and secondary schools; and (c) advised of the planned establishment of a Language Learning Steering Group, consisting of appropriate professionals, to ensure local implementation of the advice offered by The National Implementation Group on language learning.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

- the role of the Development Officer; and
- whether teachers are responding positively with regard to their expected involvement in the delivery of language learning.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve North Ayrshire's response to "Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 Approach" as set out within the report; and (b) note that further progress reports will be submitted to the Cabinet in due course.

4. Confucius Classroom

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) which (a) provided information on the aim of the Confucius Classroom Strategy to ensure that Scotland is well placed to respond to the opportunities arising from the growth of China as an economic power; and (b) advised on proposals to expand and deepen Scotland's educational links with China by continuing to strengthen and further develop the Confucius Classroom.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

- the level of Chinese language learning delivered in school; and
- the scope for students to progress from access level to study the Chinese language at university.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) approve the proposal to expand and deepen Scotland's educational links with China by continuing to strengthen and further develop the Confucius Classroom; and (b) note that further progress reports will be submitted to the Cabinet in due course.

5. Teaching Scotland's Future: Development of a Teaching Hub

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) which (a) summarised the background to the teaching hub approach; (b) outlined progress made in the development of a teaching hub in partnership with the University of Glasgow; and (c) detailed plans for session 2013/14.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on how teachers are responding to the responsibilities associated with the teaching hub approach.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the content of the report; and (b) receive further reports in due course.

6. Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) Examination Results 2013

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) which (a) summarised the overall performance of North Ayrshire schools in the Scottish Qualification Authority (SQA) examinations of 2013; and (b) set out detailed information in relation individual schools, as contained in the appendices to the report.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the likelihood of improved performance at SCQF level 6 in 2014.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to note the content of the report and the achievements of the pupils in this year's SQA examinations; and (b) that a further report be submitted to the Cabinet in due course on performance in the 2014 diet of SQA examinations.

7. Flexibility of P2/P3 Class Size

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) which (a) provided background information on delegated authority provided to officers to exceed the class size maxima set by Council on a temporary basis for certain Primary 2 and or Primary 3 classes at particular schools; and (b) gave details of the five primary schools, out of a total of 53 primary schools in North Ayrshire, where class sizes at Primary 2 and Primary 3 have exceeded the class size maxima set by Council.

Noted.

The Teaching Representative and Youth Representatives left the meeting at this point.

8. Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Funding

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Development and Environment) which (a) provided information on attempts to secure funding from the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Socio Economic Fund; and (b) set out the Council's future approach to the response to decommissioning activity and the associated pursuit of funding, including the proposed formation of a Response to Nuclear Decommissioning Steering Group.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the number of Nuclear Decommissioning Authority representatives to be appointed to the Steering Group.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the outcome of applications to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Socio Economic Fund; (b) the formation of a Response to Nuclear Decommissioning Steering Group, chaired by the Council and comprising those representatives set out at Section 3.1 of the report, subject to an amendment providing for 1 Nuclear Decommissioning Authority representative and 1 representative of Magnox; and (c) recommend to the Council that the Portfolio holder for Economy and Employment be appointed to serve on the Steering Group as its Chair.

9. Consultation on the National Litter Strategy

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Development and Environment) which (a) advised on the main discussion themes and proposals within the Scottish Government consultation on a proposed National Litter Strategy; and (b) set out a proposed response by the Council to the consultation paper.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the key proposals from the Scottish Government's consultation report; (b) approve the draft response to the questions posed in the paper as detailed in Appendix 1.

10. Consultation on the Marine Litter Strategy

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Development and Environment) which (a) advised on the main discussion themes, Strategic Directions and actions within the Scottish Government consultation on a proposed National Litter Strategy; and (b) set out a proposed response by the Council to the consultation paper.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the type of measures required for beaches to achieve Blue Flag status.

The Head of Environment and Related Services undertook to brief the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Infrastructure further on the factors taken into consideration in the awarding of Blue Flag status to beaches.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the key proposals from the Scottish Government's consultation report; (b) approve the draft response to the questions posed in the paper as detailed in Appendix 1.

11. Fullarton Community Association - Land Transfer

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on progress made in finalising the business plan for Fullarton Community Association, to enable a final determination to be made in respect of the proposed land transfer.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the support provided by the Council to the community of Fullarton.

The Cabinet agreed (a) to record its appreciation of the significant work undertaken by members of community of Fullarton and officers of the Council in taking forward this project; (b) to transfer the community centre and the land

shown at Appendix 1 to the report to Fullarton Community Association, subject to the conditions set out at Section 3.1 of the report; and (b) that Small Town and Rural Development Group (STAR) be commissioned to continue with the local action planning process in the Fullarton area.

12. Procurement Overview

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) provided an update on progress in improving the Council's procurement practices; and (b) gave information on national and local procurement issues, including the National Procurement agenda and the annual Procurement Capability Assessment within the Council.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on measures to continue to increase the percentage of Council spend with local suppliers.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the report; and (b) receive a further report in six months.

13. Surplus Property - Prospect House, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) on the proposed disposal of the residential property known as Prospect House, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran which was declared surplus by the former Education Executive in November 2009.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the impact of the economic climate and the condition of the property on its current market value.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the disposal of Prospect House, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran, for the consideration of £120,000.

14. Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2013-2018

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Social Services and Health) which (a) advised on a number of recent developments, including the impact of increased subsidy levels for affordable housing on future financial planning; (b) sought approval of the draft Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2013-2018 for submission to the Scottish Government.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

- the complexity of the information presented;
- the Council's capacity to deliver on its slippage programme in the event of further funding becoming available;
- whether the Council itself might have been in a position to develop the Stanley Road, Ardrossan site had it retained ownership of the land; and
- Cunninghame Housing Association's current house building activities in North Ayrshire.

The Cabinet agreed to approve the submission of the Strategic Housing Investment Plan 2013-2018 set out at Appendix 1 to the Scottish Government.

15. Housing Need and Demand Assessment: Isle of Arran and Isle of Cumbrae

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Social Services and Health) which (a) gave an overview of independent research recently undertaken to assess Housing Need and Demand on the Isles of Arran and Cumbrae; and (b) sought approval to use the research findings for strategic planning purposes.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the difference between the small shortfall in the number of housing units on Cumbrae compared with the significant issue in terms of the availability of suitable housing to meet the needs of older people and those with disabilities on the island

The Cabinet agreed to approve the findings of the Housing Needs and Demand Assessment: Isle of Arran and Isle of Cumbrae for strategic planning purposes.

16. Whole Systems Approach

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Social Services and Health) which (a) provided details of a number of key strands within the Whole Systems Approach designed to reduce re-offending by young people; and (b) summarised the current position relating to the locally implemented Whole System Approach.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the need to publicise the effectiveness of the Whole Systems Approach.

The Cabinet agreed to (a) note the information provided in the report; and (b) approve the continued development of this strategy as an approach to best meet the needs of young people who offend and the community within which they live.

17. Change Programme: Progress as at 31 July 2013

Submitted report by the Chief Executive on the continuing good progress of the Change Programme as at 31 July 2013, including the activity in relation to the Social Services and Health and Education and Skills change programmes, work on Bridgegate House, the Transport Business Case, Customer Services work and a number of other initiatives currently under review.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the following:-

- whether the Council's approach to Senior Phase and Post 16 Education is likely to meet the Scottish Government's expectations in terms of the delivery of vocational qualifications;
- the effectiveness of the Council's print management solution; and
- the current approach to encouraging the public to direct their enquiries through the Council's website rather than the telephone contact centre.

The Corporate Director (Education and Skills) undertook to provide the Cabinet with a copy of a Curriculum for Excellence Senior Phase Strategy paper.

Noted.

18. Section 10 Social Work (Scotland) Act - Small Grants

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on recent Section 10 Social Work (Scotland) Act grant awards to support the work of local and national organisations that offer a direct service in support of community development across North Ayrshire, as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on measures to ensure that the availability of funding is publicised across North Ayrshire.

Noted.

19. Maximising Attendance Performance – Quarter 1 Summary, April to June 2013

Submitted report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) provided an analysis of sickness absence and cumulative days lost in Quarter 1 2013; (b) gave comparative figures for the same period in 2012/13; and (c) offered details of the cost of sickness absence, the use of occupational health services and the causal factors of absence.

Noted.

20. Procurement EU Tender Plan - 2013/14

Submit report by the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support) which (a) presented an EU procurement tender plan for the remainder of Financial Year 2013/14; and (b) requested approval for the fifteen requirements listed at Appendix 1 to the report.

Members asked questions, and received clarification, on the potential for splitting some larger contracts into framework agreements or lots to facilitate bidding by smaller local businesses.

The Cabinet agreed to invite tenders for the supplies, services and works listed in the plan at Appendix 1 to the report.

21. Education Attainment and Achievement Policy Board: Minutes of Meeting held on 12 August 2013

Submitted report by Corporate Director (Education and Skills) on the Minutes of the Meeting of the Education Attainment and Achievement Policy Board held on 12 August 2013.

Noted.

**22. Housing Revenue Account Business Plan Implementation Group:
Minutes of Meeting held on 13 August 2013**

Submitted report by Corporate Director (Social Services and Health) on the Minutes of the Meeting of the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan Implementation Group held on 13 August 2013.

Noted.

The meeting ended at 4.25 p.m.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 3

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: Public Performance Reporting 2012/13

Purpose: To advise Cabinet on public performance reporting and the draft Annual Performance Report 2012/13.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees (a) to note the status of the Council's performance indicators at Appendices A and B; (b) to approve the draft Annual Performance Report 2012/13 set out at Appendix C; (c) that the Annual Performance Report 2012/13 will be published on *North Ayrshire Performs* on the 27 September 2013; and (d) that this report be referred to Scrutiny and Petitions for further consideration.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Public performance reporting underpins the development of a culture of continuous improvement and is a key component of the Council's Performance Management Strategy 2012/15.
- 1.2 *North Ayrshire Performs*, the performance section on the Council's website, provides a range of information including a full set of Performance Indicators (PIs); the Performance Management Strategy; Financial Information; and Service Plans.
- 1.3 Each indicator on *North Ayrshire Performs* has notes to explain to the public what the indicator is about, why we measure it, current performance against target, what can affect performance, how our performance compares to others and any action we are taking to improve performance.
- 1.4 Improvements in public performance reporting for 2012/13 include a review of PIs; the inclusion of the national indicators which have been agreed by the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE); case studies and quotes under each Council objective; and a section on benchmarking.
- 1.5 The SOLACE indicators will support change and improvement within Councils by promoting discussion about how apparently better-performing organisations achieve their results.

- 1.6 This report details the 138 PIs to be used for public performance reporting for the year 2012/13, as outlined below.

PIs on North Ayrshire Performs	
SPIs	57
Council Plan indicators	32
Additional PIs	48
Total	137

- 1.7 Taking account of the Account Commission's Direction 2012, this will be the last year that the SPI process will be undertaken and a pro-forma returned to Audit Scotland. The Direction reinforces the focus for Councils to take responsibility for the performance information they report. There will be a requirement to report the SOLACE benchmarking indicators. Audit Scotland has ensured that those SPIs that continue to provide appropriate levels of comparison have been included in the SOLACE benchmark set.
- 1.8 The range of PIs will inform the Annual Council Performance Report 2012/13 and North Ayrshire Performs which will be published by 30 September 2013 and help fulfil the Council's duty of public performance reporting.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The indicators enable the Council to demonstrate performance against the four Council objectives

- Regenerating our communities and increasing employment
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Raising educational attainment
- Operating more efficiently and effectively

The range of PIs take into account the Account Commission's Corporate Management and Service Performance reporting requirements.

- 2.2 Appendix A details the full set of PIs to be publicly reported, showing (where available) three years of performance trends, along with the target level of performance and a traffic light (Red, Amber Green) symbol to show whether the target level of performance has been achieved (Green), is slightly adrift of target (Amber) or is significantly adrift of target (Red).
- 2.3 Analysis of the indicators which have targets shows that:
- 71% of measures met or exceeded target
 - 16% were slightly adrift
 - 13% of measures were significantly adrift of target

Data for 20 measures is currently not available. Eighteen of them are cost based indicators which are SOLACE indicators and 2012/13 data will not be available until early 2014. Two are relating to education - *Looked After Children: Average Tariff Score – S4* (available June 2014) and *% of school leavers entering positive destinations* (available December 2013).

- 2.4 Appendix B lists the 29 Red/Amber measures along with management commentary from the relevant Service

2012/13 Summary of Traffic Light Status	
Traffic Light	% of Measures
Green	71%
Amber	16%
Red	13%

- 2.5 Comparison of 2012/13 performance with 2011/12 performance and 2009/10 performance shows that performance improved in 59% of measures with trend information over the one year period and in 74% over the three year period.

2012/13 Summary of short term/long term trends		
	Short Term	Long Term
Improved	59%	74%
Declined	40%	26%
No change	1%	

- 2.6 The information to be included in the Council's public performance reporting arrangements is subject to internal and external audit. This seeks to provide assurance that:

- Services have adequate written procedures in place to collate the performance indicators
- the controls surrounding the indicators are robust; and,
- the information recorded and published is accurate and reliable.

Public Performance Report

- 2.9 To meet the various requirements for Public Performance Reporting a draft Annual Council Performance Report 2012/13 has been produced which is attached in Appendix C.
- 2.10 The Annual Council Performance Report 12/13 incorporates the end of year Council Plan Action Plan 12/13 progress report.

- 2.11 In summary, 65% of Council Plan performance measures with targets met or exceeded target, 21% were slightly adrift, 14% of measures were significantly adrift of target. Appendix B includes the 10 Red/Amber measures along with management commentary from the relevant Service. Comparison of 2012/13 performance with 2011/12 performance and 2009/10 performance shows that performance improved in 67% of Council Plan measures with trend information over the one year period and in 73% over the three year period.
- 2.12 The report includes information on:-
- Successes and challenges
 - Performance in achieving the four core objectives in the Council Plan Action Plan 2012/13
 - Case Studies and quotes
 - Performance Indicators
 - Benchmarking including analysis of the SOLACE indicators
 - Financial Spending
- 2.13 The report exceeds statutory reporting requirements and provides information on the Council's performance in a useful and understandable form.
- 2.14 The report will be made available primarily as an electronic document downloadable from the Council's website with a limited number of hard copies being made available at the Council's main public buildings.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 That the Cabinet agrees (a) note the status of the Council's performance indicators at Appendices A and B; (b) to approve the draft Annual Performance Report 2012/13 set out at Appendix C; (c) that the Annual Performance Report 2012/13 will be published on North Ayrshire Performs on the 27 September 2013; and (d) that this report be referred to Scrutiny and Petitions for further consideration.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost of publicising the report and print run of hard copies can be met from the Policy and Service Reform revenue budget.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no Human Resources implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 Reporting requirements specified in the Accounts Commission 2008 Direction represented a major departure from the previously tightly specified list of Statutory Performance Indicators (SPIs). It introduced scope for Councils to choose their own Performance Indicators (PIs) to fulfil the Best Value' obligations arising from the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003. This report confirms the arrangements for the Council's compliance with its duties under the Local Government Act 1992 and the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003 and commitment to improving public performance reporting.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no Equality Implications.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no Environmental Implications.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The Report helps to support the Council Plan Objective 4 - 'Operating More Effectively and Efficiently'.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The Extended Corporate Management Team has considered this report.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 This report confirms the Council's commitment to public performance reporting and best value and enables scrutiny of its performance for the year ended 31 March 2013.
















ELMA MURRAY
Chief Executive

Reference :

For further information please contact Anne Todd, Policy and Performance Officer on telephone number 01294 324140




























Background Papers

None

PI Status Key		Long Term Trends Key		Short Term Trends Key	
	Significantly Adrift of Target		Improving		Improving
	Slightly Adrift of Target		No Change		No Change
	On Target		Getting Worse		Getting Worse
	Unable to calculate status		Unable to calculate trend		Unable to calculate trend
	Data Only				

1. Regenerating our communities and increasing employment

1.1 Economic Development and Regeneration

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Dependency ratio (number of dependents per 100 working age people)	67	58	57.4			58	
Number of ED clients entering employment through ED sponsored initiatives	1,120	1,169	1,130			1,056	
Number of modern apprentices on North Ayrshire Council programmes at 31 March	24	90	81			90	
Number of new businesses per 10,000 working age population	30.3	36.5	33			43.8	
Percentage of working age population in employment	61.3%	61.5%	62.2%			62%	
Total population of North Ayrshire	135,180	138,090	137,560				
Tourism visitor numbers	1,142,420	1,125,300	1,137,860			1,188,116	
Tourist visitor expenditure	£117,730,000	£123,650,000	£132,470,000			£122,439,200	
Youth claimant count			10.7%				

North Ayrshire Performs - Committee Report

Updated on: 18 September 2013

1.2 Cultural and Community Services

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
No of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums per 1000 population	611	652	889	↑	↑	655	✓
No of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums that were in person per 1000 population	509	588	498	↓	↓	590	✗
Number of Active volunteers who have participated in training delivered by Community and Culture	2,096	1,754	1,389	↓	↓	4,000	✗
Number of attendances per 1,000 population for indoor sports and leisure facilities	5,046	5,765	7,689	↑	↑	5,937	✓
Number of attendances per 1,000 population to all pools	2,748	2,706	2,931	↑	↑	2,694	✓
Number of Library visits per 1000 population	6,721	7,929	8,265	↑	↑	6,500	✓

1.3 Housing Quality

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Energy efficient	86%	95.5%	96.3%	↑	↑	85%	✓
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Free from serious disrepair	88%	92.5%	98.1%	↑	↑	85%	✓
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Healthy, safe and secure	93%	96.3%	98.2%	↑	↑	85%	✓
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Modern facilities and services	85%	95.7%	97.3%	↑	↑	85%	✓
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Tolerable standard	95%	97.4%	99.7%	↑	↑	85%	✓
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Total dwellings meeting SHQS	60%	80.4%	90.5%	↑	↑	85%	✓

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Updated on: 18 September 2013

1.4 Community Safety

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of residents within North Ayrshire who feel unsafe walking in their neighbourhood after dark	35%	31%	30%	↑	↑	31%	✓
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints (serious and persistent)	227	278	291	↑	↑	240	✓

1.5 Roads

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of Class A roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	46.7%	44.4%	36.3%	↑	↑	45%	✓
% of Class B roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	46.1%	42.8%	38.8%	↑	↑	45%	✓
% of Class C roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	58.6%	55.8%	49.7%	↑	↑	55.7%	✓
Overall percentage of road network that should be considered for maintenance treatment	47.9%	43.8%	42.7%	↑	↑	46%	✓
Percentage of Unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	44.6%	39.6%	42.3%	↓	↓	42.4%	✓

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2. Protecting vulnerable people

2.1 Community Care

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of people aged 65 or over with intensive needs receiving care at home	30.9%	37.2%	38.13%	↑	↑	30%	✓
Number of patients waiting more than four weeks for appropriate discharge		3	0	↑	↑	0	✓
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving a service at weekends	80.5%	84.53%	86%	↑	↑	84%	✓
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving a service during evening/overnight	39.4%	46.33%	47.54%	↑	↑	45%	✓
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving personal care	98.4%	98.55%	97.29%	↓	↑	99%	⚠
Total number of homecare hours provided as a rate per 1,000 population aged 65+	413.2	482	522.28	↑	↑	450	✓
Volume of respite care (adults 18-64) daytime	16,013	16,162	118,226	↑	↑		📊
Volume of respite care (older people 65+) daytime hours	95,990	92,093	90,216	↓	↓	91,000	✓

2.2 Criminal Justice

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of individuals subject to level 1 Community Payback Order Unpaid Work completed within 3 months			54.63%	?	?	50%	✓
Percentage of individuals subject to level 2 Community Payback Order Unpaid Work completed within 6 months			61.31%	?	?	75%	⛔

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2.3 Child Protection and Children's Services

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Balance of Care for Children Looked After	90.22%	90.13%	90.38%	↑	↑	90%	✓
Percentage of children in a kinship care placement subject to residence order		10.47%	21.92%	↑	↑	15%	✓
Percentage of children seen by a supervising officer within 15 days of a Supervision Requirement being made	93.81%	92.86%	89.25%	↓	↓	100%	✗
Percentage of families placed on the Child Protection register who have previously been deregistered within 12 months	4%	6%	2%	↑	↑	5%	✓
Percentage of social background reports submitted within 20 days		70.43%	63.17%	↓	↓	75%	✗

2.4 Homelessness

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Homelessness: Number of presentations	766	710	656	↑	↑		📊
Perm Accom: Percentage of cases reassessed within 12 months of completion of duty	4.8%	5.7%	5.9%	↓	↑	6%	✓
Perm Accom: Percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days of date of initial presentation	98.3%	99.4%	99%	↓	↑	99%	✓
Perm Accom: Percentage who are housed into permanent accommodation	67.5%	69.2%	72%	↑	↑	65%	✓
Temp Accom: Percentage of cases reassessed within 12 months of completion of duty	1.9%	1.5%	0.3%	↑	↑	1.5%	✓
Temp Accom: Percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days of date of initial presentation	99.3%	96.7%	95.5%	↓	↓	95%	✓
The proportion of those provided with perm accom who maintained their tenancy for at least 12 months	90.2%	85%	87%	↑	↑	80%	✓

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3. Improving educational attainment

3.1 Attainment

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of pupils gaining 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better (by end of S5)	19.7%	23.4%	20.3%	↓	↓	21%	⚠
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 3 or better (by end of S4)	95.5%	96.77%	98.21%	↑	↑	96%	✓
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better (by end of S4)	74.1%	76.7%	79.5%	↑	↑	77%	✓
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better (by end of S4)	32.4%	30.5%	33.5%	↑	↑	31%	✓
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better (by end of S6)	19.6%	18.5%	22.6%	↑	↑	22%	✓
% of young people choosing to stay onto S5 (Jan S5 roll), as % of S4 roll at September previous year	70.5%	73.4%	73.6%	↑	↑	72%	✓
Average Tariff Score – S4	179	179	190	↑	↑	181	✓
Looked After Children: Average Tariff Score – S4	89	95	Not Available	?	?	95	?

3.2 Exclusions

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Exclusion Incidents per 1000 pupils – Primary Schools	10.06	7.54	5.73	↑	↑	10	✓
Exclusion Incidents per 1000 pupils – Secondary Schools	83.74	79.95	65.8	↑	↑	90	✓

3.3 Attendance

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage Attendance – Primary Schools	94.63%	95.16%	94.74%	↓	↓	95.5%	✓
Percentage Attendance – Secondary Schools	91.45%	92.12%	91.96%	↓	↑	92%	✓

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3.4 Destination of school leavers

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of school leavers entering positive destinations	90.7%	89.9%	Not Available	?	?	86.5%	?

4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 1. Providing cost effective and efficient services

4.01 Revenues and Service Costs

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Capital Expenditure - General Services - Actual expenditure as a percentage of budgeted expenditure		95.36%	96.6%	↑	↑	100%	⚠
Capital Expenditure - Housing Revenue Account - Actual expenditure as a percentage of budgeted expenditure		94.55%	95.9%	↑	↑	100%	⚠
Corporate and democratic core costs per 1,000 population	£32,904	£28,173	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available			£26,369	
Cost of collecting council tax per dwelling	£12.17	£11.70	£11.05	↑	↑	£12.85	✓
Level of unearmarked reserves as a percentage of revenue budget		1.8%	1.9%	↑	↑	1.5%	✓
Percentage of income due from council tax received by the end of the year %	93.6%	93.6%	93.5%	↓	↓	93.9%	⚠
Percentage of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	88.1%	82.5%	81.57%	↓	↓	90%	✗
Procurement Capability Assessment (%)	27%	34%	51%	↑	↑	46%	✓
Support services as a percentage of total gross expenditure	2.5%	2.8%	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
The gross administration cost per benefits case	£41.31	£38.00	£40.36	↓	↑	£40.60	✓



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4.02 Cultural and Community Services

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Cost per attendance at sports facilities £	£4.07	£3.79	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Cost per library visit £	£2.98	£2.74	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Cost per museum visit £	£1.09	£0.48	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				

4.03 Housing

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Spend on repairs and maintenance per property £	1,058	1,064	1,187	↓	↓		
Spend on supervision and management per property £	528	509	485	↑	↑		

4.04 Community Care

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Home care costs for people aged 65 or over per hour £	£23.56	£19.04	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Self directed support spend for people aged over 18 as a % of total social work spend on adults	0.9%	1.3%	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				

4.05 Child Protection and Children's Services

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
The gross cost of "children looked after" in a community setting per child per week £	£190.81	£200.61	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
The gross cost of "children looked after" in residential based services per child per week £	£2,918	£2,895.	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				

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4.06 Education

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Cost per pre-school place £	£3,977	£3,804	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Cost per primary school pupil £	£5,362	£5,421	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Cost per secondary school pupil £	£6,335	£6,427	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				

4.07 Roads

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Road cost per kilometre £	£8,425	£6,622	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				

4.08 Waste Management Services

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of total household waste that is recycled	43.5%	52.5%	53.3%	↑	↑	55%	⚠
Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population £	£42,092	£44,276	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Gross waste collection cost per premises £	£70.09	£69.48	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Gross waste disposal cost per premises £	£98.89	£90.79	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Net Cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population £	£22,740	£21,135	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Net cost per household for the provision of Grounds Maintenance Services (£)	£92.42	£84.99	£88.42	↓	↑	£84.35	⚠
Percentage of fly-tipping incidents on public land cleared within 7 days		98.91%	97.88%	↓	↓	100%	⚠
Street Cleanliness Index	73	74	75	↑	↑	75	✓

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4.09 Assets

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Proportion of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	82%	80.7%	71.94%	↓	↓	80.5%	⛔
Proportion of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	88.6%	91.9%	87.54%	↓	↓	91%	⚠

4.10 Planning

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
The average time (weeks) to deal with major and local planning applications determined during the year : Local developments - Average time (weeks) to deal with applications			8.8	?	?	9	✅
The average time (weeks) to deal with major and local planning applications determined during the year : Major developments - Average time (weeks) to deal with applications			31.4	?	?	18	⛔

4.11 Environmental Health

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of food poisoning investigations within 2 days of inquiry (EH)	95%	96%	100%	↑	↑	90%	✅
Percentage of high priority pest control requests dealt within 2 days (EH)	94%	89%	94%	↑	↑	90%	✅
Percentage of high priority public health complaints dealt within 2 days (EH)	92%	99%	98%	↓	↑	90%	✅

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4.12 Trading standards

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Cost of trading standards and environmental health per 1,000 population £	£25,018	£23,126	SOLACE PI – Data Not Available				
Percentage of trading standards business advice requests that were dealt with in 14 days	99.2%	100%	99.7%	↓	↑	100%	✓
Percentage of trading standards consumer complaints that were dealt with in 14 days	84.2%	84.6%	89.3%	↑	↑	80%	✓

4.13 Domestic noise complaints

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Average time between time of noise complaint and attendance on site (hours)	0.9	0.8	0.6	↑	↑	1	✓
Average time between time of noise complaint and attendance on site as dealt with under the ASB Act (hours)	0.9	1	0.82	↑	↑	1	✓
The number of complaints of domestic noise received & settled without the need for attendance on site	644	679	460	↑	↑		📈
The number of complaints of noise received requiring attendance on site & not dealt with under the ASB Act	9	9	6	↑	↑		📈

4.14 Carbon emissions

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Overall carbon emissions (tonnes)	61,537	57,228	57,208	↑	↑	57,827	✓

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4.15 Repairs

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
All Priority Categories: Percentage of repairs completed within the target time (all categories)	98.3%	97.7%	97.5%	↓	↓	98.5%	⚠
Percentage of Aids and Adaptations within the Housing Stock completed within target by Building Services	86.67%	96.03%	96.37%	↑	↑	95%	✓

4.16 Rent Management

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Average number of weeks rent owed by tenants leaving in arrears	5.7	4.8	5	↓	↑	5	✓
Current tenants' arrears as a percentage of net rent due in the year	4%	3.4%	3.6%	↓	↑	3.3%	⚠
Percentage of current tenants owing more than 13 weeks rent (Exc those owing less than £250)	2.2%	2.1%	1.9%	↑	↑	2%	✓
Percentage of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	↑	↑	1%	✓
The percentage of arrears owed by former tenants that was either written off or collected	53.82%	56.3%	50.4%	↓	↓	55%	⚠
The proportion of tenants giving up their tenancy that were in rent arrears.	35%	39.7%	40.6%	↓	↓	35%	⛔

4.17 Housing re-lets

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Low demand stock: Average number of days that these houses had been un-let at year end	17	24	21	↑	↑	40	✓
Low demand stock: Average re-let time	13	18	14	↑	↑	16	✓
Not low demand stock: Average re-let time	12	14	14	▬	↓	16	✓

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4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 2. Focusing on our customers

4.18 Complaints

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Number of Customer Complaints	430	572	869	↓	↓		
Percentage of Council Wide Complaints Handled on Time	88%	94%	81%	↓	↓		

4.19 Freedom of Information

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Freedom of Information requests responded to in 20 working days (%)	93%	96%	95%	↓	↑		

4.20 Customer satisfaction

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Level of satisfaction with public sector partners - North Ayrshire Council	58	56	55	↓	↓	56	
Percentage of Customer Satisfaction for waste collection based on number of Complaints per 1000 households - (SPI)	97.71%	96.7%	96.1%	↓	↓	97%	
Percentage of customers who were fairly or very satisfied with the way that Public Open Spaces are looked after	72%	76%	72%	↓	↓	75%	

4.21 Accessibility

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of council buildings in which all public areas are suitable for and accessible to disabled people	70%	79.21%	52.5%	↓	↓	70%	

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4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 3. Focusing on our employees

4.22 Employees

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of staff who strongly agree or agree that teamwork is important to them			95.52%				
% of staff who strongly agree or agree that their team strives to find ways to service fellow colleagues and customers better			79.4%				
Council-wide staffing numbers for North Ayrshire Council (Full-time equivalent)	5,796	5,585.2	5,644			5,449	
Incidence of Reportable Incidents per 100,000 employees	493	614	472.53			620	
The average number of days lost through sickness: all staff (excluding Teachers)	8.0	9.8	10.3			7.0	
The average number of days lost through sickness: teachers	5.50	5.90	6.60			5.60	














4.23 Equality and Diversity

Performance Indicator	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
	Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of Black and Minority Ethnic North Ayrshire Council employees	0.81%	0.71%	0.64%				
Percentage of North Ayrshire Council employees who have recorded as having a disability	1.79%	2.1%	1.49%				
The percentage of the highest paid 2% employees who are women	40.4%	46.8%	50%				
The percentage of the highest paid 5% employees who are women	46.4%	51.8%	53%				

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Appendix B

PI Status Key		Long Term Trends Key		Short Term Trends Key	
	Significantly Adrift of Target		Improving		Improving
	Slightly Adrift of Target		No Change		No Change
	On Target		Getting Worse		Getting Worse
	Unable to calculate status		Unable to calculate trend		Unable to calculate trend
	Data Only				

Traffic Light	
Red	13
Amber	16




1. Regenerating our communities and increasing employment

1.1 Economic Development and Regeneration







Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Number of modern apprentices on North Ayrshire Council programmes at 31 March	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The number of Modern Apprentices employed as at 31st March 2013 was 81 which was slightly below the target of 90. A number of interventions have been now implemented to attract and support young people into the MA programme. Some examples of these are - working with schools to actively promote MA vacancies to pupils (eg. text alerts, class announcements etc.) Supporting pupils to fill out job applications and providing feedback on mock interviews. Recruiting managers have also been provided with a simplified recruitment process to use when recruiting MAs, eg. use of a generic bank of MA role profiles which saves time at advert stage, non competency based recruitment, making it easier for both the applicant and manager at application, shortleat and interview stage.	24	90	81			90	
Number of new businesses per 10,000 working age population	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update This is a key indicator as part of the Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy to encourage new businesses into North Ayrshire. The main purpose of this figure is to provide an estimate of North Ayrshire's business stock per 10,000 of the working age	30.3	36.5	33			43.8	

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	<p>population. This indicator is measured to capture entrepreneurship in terms of the propensity to start a new business and can be used as a baseline from which to assess change in entrepreneurship levels and compare with other areas. Information will be collated from Business Register and Employment Survey and The Committee of Scottish Bankers.</p> <p>The 2012/13 figure totals 33. This performance is significantly below the target of 43.8. Gaining access to funding is difficult for new businesses with little or no track record and consumer confidence is relatively low. The current economic climate means trading conditions remain difficult for new businesses. The North Ayrshire Business Development Team continues to deliver a range of supports to businesses including promoting and assisting with business start-ups. The Regeneration Board looked at how we should help businesses grow through inward investment, helping existing businesses grow and increasing the rate of start-up and these recommendations are now being implemented.</p>							
Tourism visitor numbers	<p>2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Tourism visitor numbers in North Ayrshire increased by 1.12% in 2012/13 to 1,137,860. It is worth noting that, despite the target not being met, the overall tourism value for 2012/13 exceeded the 2011/12 value.</p>	1,142,420	1,125,300	1,137,860			1,188,116	

1.2 Cultural and Community Services

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
No of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums that were in person per 1000 population	<p>2012/13 - Quarter Four Update:</p> <p>Visits (in person and virtual) to North Ayrshire museums have increased in total. Our two museums are Saltcoats Heritage Centre and the Museum of the Cumbraes. The former is a self-contained building where visits can be counted electronically. The latter is part of a community space where visits are more difficult to count. The visit numbers have been based on library visit numbers. The reduction in local office/library hours in Millport has affected the statistics returned as visits to the museum, hence the apparent decrease in visits. The statistics do not reflect the weekend or holiday visitors to the museum, or those who visit when the library is closed.</p>	509	588	498			590	
Number of Active volunteers who have participated in training delivered by Community and Culture	<p>2012/13 - Context for inability to achieve target.</p> <p>The focus on volunteering within Community and Culture has been reviewed as part of the strategic decision making process in relation to outcomes based activities in our communities. Partly as a result of the Scottish Government Community Empowerment and Renewal Bill, there is an increased interest on</p>	2,096	1,754	1,389			4,000	

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	<p>the part of groups within the community to access training from Community and Culture to develop themes which are of interest to the wider community. This includes community associations, sports and cultural interest groups.</p> <p>The focus on this work, and the increasing number of volunteers receiving support from Community and Culture in group settings, as reported in a separate indicator, is a more effective means of supporting a broader range of people within communities.</p> <p>Individual volunteers are trained and supported where appropriate but, in future, targets have been designed to reflect increased participation in groups rather than on an individual basis. In addition, the Council is encouraging and supporting partner organisations to deliver training for volunteers, which is a more effective model in terms both of reaching a greater number of people and in delivering a more in-depth level of training and experience, but which also reduces the amount of direct delivery of training by Community and Culture. We are currently encouraging partner organisations to report via Covalent to provide a better reflection of the amount of activity undertaken in this area</p>							
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2. Protecting vulnerable people




2.1 Community Care

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving personal care	<p>2012/13 - Quarter Four Update</p> <p>NAC continues to deliver Free Personal Care to a high volume of service users (65+). As of March 2012, NAC ranked 7th out of 32 Local Authorities for this indicator. North Ayrshire Council did not achieve its target of 99%.</p> <p>The focus of services is to increase choice and control for service users and their carers. In a number of cases, particularly in relation to Dementia support, carers prefer to undertake personal caring tasks themselves and choose Home Care support to only undertake non-personal care activity. This is in-line with the Personalisation agenda.</p>	98.4%	98.55%	97.29%	↓	↑	99%	⚠

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2.2 Criminal Justice

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of individuals subject to level 2 Community Payback Order Unpaid Work completed within 6 months	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update During 2012/13, 168 offenders completed 168 level two community payback orders. Of those, 103 were completed within 6 months. Of the 65 that did not complete within 6 months; 20 failed to attend, 11 offenders were ill, 3 were in custody, 2 were working on other orders, 6 had employment commitments, 2 were transfers from other LAs, 1 had a late induction, 3 had poor compliance, 5 breached their order, 5 were granted extensions, 2 had childcare issues, 1 was suspended, 1 is a resident of Arran and had no supervising officer, 1 requires an individual placement and 2 had other reasons.			61.31%			75%	




2. Protecting vulnerable people

2.3 Child Protection and Children's Services

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of children seen by a supervising officer within 15 days of a Supervision Requirement being made	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Of the 93 visits required by Supervising Officers throughout 2012/13, 83 were completed within target time. This resulted in NAC achieving 89.25% visits within the 15 day target time. Failure to meet target and the decrease in performance against 2011/12 can be attributed to the increase in Child Protection and investigation activity. The overall increase in child protection activity can be attributed to the impacts of the economic downturn that has affected the country the past few years. Families on low or no incomes have been subject to an on-going drop in household budgets. This places great stress on vulnerable families who often need to make hard decisions in relation to household budgets. It has been evidenced that the increased majority of recent Child Protection cases are due to concerns of neglect and often relate to parental drug and/or alcohol use. Due to the changes set out in the Welfare Reform Act, it is anticipated that even greater strain will be placed on Children and Family services.	93.81%	92.86%	89.25%			100%	




North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of social background reports submitted within 20 days	<p>2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The figures shown reflect activity over the first three quarters of 2012/13 (April to December). Information provided from SCRA for the January to March period is unreliable due to issues with their new CMS system. This is a national system issue and SCRA are working to resolve the situation. Accurate information is not anticipated for release from SCRA in the immediate future.</p> <p>In relation to the quarter three figure; the service failed to meet its target. This is attributed to the large increase in Child Protection work that has taken priority over these reports.</p> <p>The overall increase in child protection activity can be attributed to the impacts of the economic downturn that has affected the country the past few years. Families on low or no incomes have been subject to an on-going drop in household budgets. This places great stress on vulnerable families who often need to make hard decisions in relation to household budgets. It has been evidenced that the increased majority of recent Child Protection cases are due to concerns of neglect and often relate to parental drug and/or alcohol use. Due to the changes set out in the Welfare Reform Act, it is anticipated that even greater strain will be placed on Children and Family services.</p>		70.43%	63.17%			75%	

3. Improving educational attainment

3.1 Attainment

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of pupils gaining 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better (by end of S5)	<p>2013/14 - Whilst disappointing, the failure to meet this target by the small margin of 0.7% can be directly attributed to the reduction in attainment levels achieved by pupils at Credit Level in the previous year (2012). This factor taken together with the significant level of system churn as a result of changes in Head Teachers and Leadership positions across our Secondary schools, lies behind the failure to meet this target.</p>	19.7%	23.4%	20.3%			21%	

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013




4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 1. Providing cost effective and efficient services

4.01 Revenues and Service Costs







Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Capital Expenditure - General Services - Actual expenditure as a percentage of budgeted expenditure	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Gross capital expenditure in 2012/13 was £27.854m which represents 96.6% of the final budget of £28.823m , i.e. an underspend of £0.969m. £0.619m of the underspend is due to slippage and acceleration of projects between financial years. A further £0.277m relates to SPT projects which will no longer proceed as a result of late notification. The remaining balance of £0.073m will be carried forward to assist in funding new projects in 2013/14 and later years. Several major projects were successfully completed during the year, including the construction of the new Dreghorn Primary School, development of Greenwood Corporate Training Centre, Phase 1 of the redevelopment of Bridgegate House and substantial investment in roads and lighting infrastructure.		95.36%	96.6%	↑	↑	100%	▲
Capital Expenditure - Housing Revenue Account - Actual expenditure as a percentage of budgeted expenditure	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Gross capital expenditure in 2012/13 was £24.521m which represents 95.9% of the final budget of £25.568m, i.e. an underspend of £1.047m. £0.931m of the underspend is due to slippage and acceleration of various projects between financial years and will be carried forward to fund the approved programme for 2013/14. The remaining underspend for the year of £0.116m will also be carried forward to enable further capital projects to be undertaken in 2013/14. Progress continued to be made during the year towards the achievement of the Scottish Housing Quality Standard, with 90.52% of houses being assessed as having met by the standard at 31 March 2013, placing the Council in the top quartile in Scotland.		94.55%	95.9%	↑	↑	100%	▲
Percentage of income due from council tax received by the end of the year %	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The council tax in year collection figure was 93.5%, a reduction of 0.1% compared to last year and short of the 93.9% target. All recovery action was run on time and debt passed to the sheriff officer as quickly as possible. The sheriff officer reported that customers are paying, but paying more slowly and this is affecting the in-year collections. Over the life of the debt the overall collections are still expected to exceed the target of 96.5% (bad debt provision of 3.5%). Benchmarking has commenced with Clackmannanshire, West Dunbartonshire and Renfrewshire Councils to identify actions that will improve the collection performance of the council and good practice. A report on the benchmarking findings is due in October 2013.	93.6%	93.6%	93.5%	↓	↓	93.9%	▲

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013

Percentage of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Performance for 2012/13 has failed to meet the target, however the level of payments on time increased significantly during the latter half of the year with the average for February and March 2013 being 90.44%. An action plan is in place and services receive monthly statistics detailing the late payments. Monthly meetings are also held with services and a strategy is in place to make better use of procurement cards which will improve the number of payments made on time. A project team is also in place to consider options for improving payment processing arrangements across the Council.	88.1%	82.5%	81.57%			90%	
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4.08 Waste Management Services







Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
% of total household waste that is recycled	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Please note the figure reported is estimated based on the Council's calculations and the data is subject to verification by SEPA. This indicator was subject to seasonal variation as the household garden waste service did not operate all year round. However, from the 18th February 2013, garden and food waste is now collected throughout the year. This has resulted in a significant improvement compared to Q4 2011/12 (43.6%). The percentage of household waste that is recycled and composted continues to increase due to improvements to the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and separate collections started from the 18th February 2013 for food and garden waste from households for recycling throughout the year. This has been achieved by extending the range of materials that can now be put into the blue bin recycling service, by implementing improvements to the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) to provide householders with the ability to separate a wider range of materials for re-use and recycling. The Service continues to support initiatives that promote waste reduction, reuse and an increase in public participation in recycling and composting collection services. The Waste Management Strategy (2012 - 2016) is being implemented which will further increase performance against this indicator.	43.5%	52.5%	53.3%			55%	
Net cost per household for the provision of Grounds Maintenance Services (£)	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The costs reflected in this PI now include the costs of maintaining all of the cemeteries. Money was moved from the cemeteries cost centre to grounds to reflect the costs of materials, labour and machinery during the Streetscene Review. The target has not been met however the target was not altered to reflect the cost of the increased workload. In addition the 2012/13 figure is not a like for like comparison against previous years as they did not reflect any costs in relation to maintaining cemeteries.	£92.42	£84.99	£88.42			£84.35	

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report




Updates on: 18 September 2013

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of fly-tipping incidents on public land cleared within 7 days	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update On three occasions fly-tipping was not removed within the 7 day time scale.		98.91%	97.88%			100%	

4.09 Assets

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Proportion of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Condition - New condition surveys are in the process of being carried out by an external contractor. All operational properties will have new condition surveys in place by September 2013. The new surveys have identified a decrease in properties in a satisfactory condition as they detail the repairs and backlog maintenance that is required. As the Council progress towards implementing a maintenance programme, tackling the backlog maintenance highlighted in the surveys, this indicator should start to increase.	82%	80.7%	71.94%			80.5%	
Proportion of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update Suitability - New suitability questionnaires have been prepared this year which include a section on DDA and accessibility from the Service users' perspective. Questionnaires were completed by service departments/building key holders and their perception of suitability was taken into account. Additional questions on the use and sufficiency of the property were also included. This has resulted in a slight decrease in buildings suitable for current use, although it is anticipated that this can be addressed by working with the Service users to resolve issues that have been identified through the questionnaire responses.	88.6%	91.9%	87.54%			91%	

4.10 Planning

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
The average time (weeks) to deal with major and local planning applications determined during the year : Major developments - Average time (weeks) to deal with applications	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update This is over target due to clearance of legacy applications.			31.4			18	

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013

4.16 Rent Management

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Current tenants' arrears as a percentage of net rent due in the year	Whilst target was not met the performance of 3.6% is still encouraging given the current economic climate. Based on Audit Scotland's report North Ayrshire Council was ranked 3rd best local authority in Scotland for 2011/12 (Scottish Average 6.1%)	4%	3.4%	3.6%	↓	↑	3.3%	⚠
The percentage of arrears owed by former tenants that was either written off or collected	This indicator measures the % of arrears that was written off or collected during the year. We were ranked 4th out all local authorities in Scotland in 2011/12. In recent years we have improved our processes and monitoring in relation to former tenant arrears. Arrears are now written off twice per year and levels of collection have increased since 2008.	53.82%	56.3%	50.4%	↓	↓	55%	⚠
The proportion of tenants giving up their tenancy that were in rent arrears.	The average has increased from 39.7% in 11/12 to 40.6% in 12/13. We do expect performance in this area to fluctuate year on year because we have no control over what tenancies are terminated. Our process for preventing arrears is keeping this Statutory Performance Indicator outcome at an acceptable level and benchmarked against other Scottish Councils, in 2011/12 we were ranked the 10th best performing Local Authority in Scotland. Scottish average is 39.2%.	35%	39.7%	40.6%	↓	↓	35%	🛑




4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 2. Focusing on our customers

4.20 Customer satisfaction




Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Level of satisfaction with public sector partners - North Ayrshire Council	This indicator is available on an annual basis and is sourced from the North Ayrshire Peoples' Panel. The question posed is: "Overall how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with each of these services? – Local Council". The responses of "very satisfied" and "fairly satisfied" are collated. This is therefore a subjective assessment by members of the public. This indicator is rated as amber as it is 55 against a target of 56. Levels of satisfaction measured in this way have not varied significantly over the past five years and have ranged from 54 to 58. Within this context the slight reduction in satisfaction levels is not thought to be significant.	58	56	55	↓	↓	56	⚠

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of customers who were fairly or very satisfied with the way that Public Open Spaces are looked after	2012/13 Quarter 4 Update This indicator measures the percentage of people reporting satisfaction with the way open spaces in their neighbourhood are looked after. This information is available on an annual basis and is sourced from North Ayrshire's Peoples' Panel. It should be highlighted that this is a subjective assessment. This indicator has fluctuated over the past year with levels ranging from 66% to 76% and no clear trend.	72%	76%	72%			75%	

4.21 Accessibility

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Percentage of council buildings in which all public areas are suitable for and accessible to disabled people	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The findings for the 2012 surveys are as follows: - The percentage of those scored as a grade A = 0%, grade B = 50.50%, grade C = 48.51% and grade D = 0.99% Previous surveys were carried out in 2008, which were originally driven by the Disability Discrimination Act, 2005 as opposed to the new Equality Act 2010, which now covers all disability discrimination issues and in particular, those relating to access. The results from the 2008 surveys were, at that time, found to be more favourable in terms of grading. However, it should be noted that the findings of the surveys were collected from different sources and consultants, compared to the most recent 2012 surveys which were carried out by a single consultant. Grade B properties are considered to be reasonably compliant and currently provide ease of access to all users in terms of the services offered. Grade C properties have been analysed and all faults found have been extracted from the main report and categorised, with high priority issues noted. Management issues should be dealt with as soon as possible, with no cost implication. Equipment that is required such as induction loop facilities, evacuation chairs, etc. can be provided with low cost implications. Any measures taken to address the issues raised will ultimately increase the accessibility status and grade. Grade D properties require substantial works to be carried out in order to make them compliant.	70%	79.21%	52.5%			70%	

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013

4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 3. Focusing on our employees

4.22 Employees

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
Council-wide staffing numbers for North Ayrshire Council (Full-time equivalent)	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The Council did not reach the indicative target of 5449 FTE. The reason for this is that workforce numbers fluctuate and change dependant on the number of temporary and supply staff that are employed and those that exit the Council at the time that the count is taken (as set by the Scottish Government). For example, employees with a leave date of 31 March 2013 will be included in the figure reported as they are still in post on that day. During the course of the year there was a higher number of temporary staff employed than originally anticipated. A workforce plan is currently being developed to go to CMT in June/July 2013 for approval.	5,796	5,585.2	5,644	↓	↑	5,449	⚠
The average number of days lost through sickness: all staff (excluding Teachers)	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The total average days lost for the full year 2012/13 was 10.3 days compared to 9.8 days for 2011/12 and 8.0 days for 2010/11. The SPI outcome for all Scottish local authorities for 2012/13 will not be available until later in the year, however, the Council was at the top of the second quartile of all outcomes for 2011/12 having dropped from being the best performing Council in 2010/11. It is anticipated that the Council may drop to the third quartile for 2012/13 (based on the assumption that all other Councils outcomes remain as for 2011/12). Sickness absence continues to be closely monitored and managed in accordance with the Maximising Attendance Policy and Procedures, and this, coupled with support through Occupational Health referral, is expected to reduce sickness absence levels going forward. In addition, a review of the Maximising Attendance Policy and Procedures is currently in progress and a report will be submitted to the Corporate Management Team in due course (the date for report submission is not yet finalised).	8.0	9.8	10.3	↓	↓	7.0	⛔
The average number of days lost through sickness: teachers	2012/13 - Quarter Four Update The total days lost for the full year 2012/13 was 6.6 days per teacher compared to 5.9 days for 2011/12 and 5.5 days for 2010/11. The SPI outcome for all Scottish local authorities for 2012/13 will not be available until later in the year, however, the Council was at the top of the second quartile of all outcomes for 2011/12 having dropped from being in the top quartile for 2010/11. It is anticipated that due to the increase this year that the Council may drop to the third quartile for 2012/13 (based on the assumption that all other Councils outcomes remain as for 2011/12). Sickness absence continues to be closely monitored and managed in accordance with the Maximising Attendance	5.50	5.90	6.60	↓	↑	5.60	⛔

North Ayrshire Performs - Exception Report

Updates on: 18 September 2013

Performance Indicator	Latest Note	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2012/13			
		Value	Value	Value	Short Trend	Long Trend	Target	Status
	Policy and Procedures, and this, coupled with support through Occupational Health referral, is expected to reduce sickness absence levels going forward. In addition, a review of the Maximising Attendance Policy and Procedures is currently in progress and a report will be submitted to the Corporate Management Team in due course (the date for report submission is not yet finalised).							



NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

Annual Performance Report 2012/13

September 2013

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Foreword

Welcome to North Ayrshire Council's Annual Performance Report for 2012/13.

Over the past year we have been working hard to meet our core objectives set out in the Council Plan for 2012/17:

- Regenerating our communities and increasing employment
- Protecting vulnerable people
- Improving educational attainment
- Operating more efficiently and effectively

Despite on-going budget pressures we enjoyed many successes last year with a number of our services achieving national awards.

One of our key achievements during 2012 was the development of our early intervention and personalisation of care service which allows us to act early to prevent health and social care issues occurring - development of this service will continue during 2013.

We continue to invest millions of pounds in regenerating and revitalising our towns, communities and supporting businesses.

This includes £30m which is being invested in Irvine to stimulate the local economy through a series of major projects led by the Council and its partners, including construction of a new community and cultural leisure centre, the redevelopment of Bridgegate House and surrounding streetscape and the refurbishment of Trinity Church.

Work to modernise our school estate progresses; the construction and refurbishment programme is recognised as one of the most ambitious school building programmes currently being undertaken in South West Scotland. More than £90 million is being invested in state-of-the-art schools throughout North Ayrshire, including Dreghorn Primary School, the new primary school at Irvine East currently under construction, the planned campus development for the Garnock Valley and the proposed campus development for the Three Towns.

And finally, our social housing programme continues to progress, this 10-year plan will see 500 new homes built across North Ayrshire – increasing the amount of quality affordable rented properties we can offer.

Our Annual Performance Report seeks to provide a balanced scorecard of our progress in achieving our objectives and improving our overall level of performance.

We would like to hear what you think of our Annual Performance Report. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact Democratic and Administration Services, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE, Tel: 01294 324140.

Alternatively please e-mail our performance team at:
northayrshireperforms@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Councillor Willie Gibson
Leader of the Council

Elma Murray
Chief Executive

Introduction

Performance management is now firmly embedded within the Council's culture. The Performance Management Strategy March 2012, reaffirms this commitment stating: *'By 2014, the Council will have sector-leading performance management systems and a supporting performance culture in place'*.

In June 2012 our investment in continuous improvement plans was recognised by Quality Scotland when the Council received the Committed to Excellence award - part of a European-wide Levels of Excellence scheme - for our success in making improvements across a number of areas.

Quality Scotland found our Council to have strong leadership, clear performance reporting and change programmes designed to achieve best value.

We will continue on our improvement journey and progress through the Level of Excellence programme during 2013.

Separately, Audit Scotland highlighted that the Council had made improvements to its performance management arrangements, including those for self-evaluation. We will undertake a second Council wide self assessment during 2013.

Straight Talking

Our Council recognises the vital role communities play in shaping and improving our services. The Council remains committed to continuing our dialogue with local groups and organisations and keeping partners across the private, public and voluntary sectors informed about our progress.

Straight Talking consultation sessions in 2010 and 2011 allowed local people to express their views and ideas on the Council's four priorities.

In 2012, local groups had the opportunity to discuss how the Council could help them to strengthen their skills and expertise.

It is important that we continue to work closely with the communities we serve listening and discussing with them challenges and opportunities. Straight Talking sessions will now be held on a quarterly basis throughout the year examining specific topics.

Successes

We have enjoyed significant successes over the last year, including:

- Streetscene who won the Municipal Journal (MJ) Local Government Achievement Award for Workforce Transformation and the Bronze Award in the COSLA Excellence Awards.
- Roads Services who received the national APSE Award for developing an innovative electronic web-based procurement and management system. The system speeds up procurement processes considerably and provides robust benchmarking information.
- Our 'Report it' Smartphone app won third place in the Digital Technology Awards 2012.
- We had seven national finalists in the Scottish Education Awards.

- Launching three Schools of Sport in Ardrossan Academy, Auchenhavie Academy and Irvine Royal Academy including Scotland's first ever School of basketball.
- All Primary Schools and Arran High School awarded the Soil Association's Gold Food for Life Catering Mark for their spring menus introduced into schools in March 2013.
- Eglinton Country Park gained an Eco Centre Award recognising the work the park has undertaken in protecting the environment and encouraging visitors to become more environmentally friendly.
- Creative Scotland awarded North Ayrshire a 'Creative Place Partnership' and funds of up to £200,000 to progress a cultural action plan.
- Housing Services achieved the Gold Investors in People Award.
- The Community Payback Income Generation Project came second at the Community Payback Unpaid Work Requirement Awards 2012. The Project raises money for charitable causes by selling garden furniture and garden produce.

Challenges

- The economic climate remains challenging but North Ayrshire Council has worked hard to ensure its operations are well placed to meet those challenges. The Council will continue to make smarter and more innovative use of resources and will continue to be creative in the development and deployment of Services.
- The inequalities brought about by unemployment, poor health and poverty continue to have a major impact on our people and our communities and have resulted in high levels of deprivation in many of our towns. We will continue to implement the Council's Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy which sets out individual projects that will attract more businesses and jobs to the area.
- The Welfare Reform Act 2012 contains a range of welfare reforms that have significant consequences for the community. The Council is, however, well placed to assist its citizens with these changes and has made provision for the anticipated increased demand on our services including support for people with disabilities, debt advice and welfare rights advice, assistance with appeals, increase in demand for social housing and homeless requests and an increase in the number of applications for discretionary housing payments and local housing allowance safeguards.

In recognition of the impact of the new legislation, a cross service Welfare Reform Working Group was established in February 2012. The Working Group has developed an action plan to respond to each of the welfare reforms.

- The new Scottish Government arrangements for Health and Social Care Integration will develop over the next year. These arrangements are designed to bring about a significant improvement in the experience of people who use health and social care services, their families and their carers. The Council together with the Health Board has taken a proactive approach to developing the new Integrated Health and Social Care Partnership.

- The Council with its partners will continue to develop neighbourhood planning in 2013 to ensure that resources are targeted at those local areas most in need. In September 2012, the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) approved the introduction of six new neighbourhood planning areas including Arran, Irvine, Kilwinning, Three Towns, Garnock Valley, and North Coast, West Kilbride and Cumbraes.

Issues such as unemployment, poverty and poor health cannot be tackled by the Council alone, so we will work with other public bodies operating in the area including health, police, and fire and rescue in the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership. Our collective plan for the area is set out in a Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) with the Scottish Government. A new four year agreement is in place for 2013/17.

Regenerating our communities and increasing employment

Employment

The Council's main priority is to tackle unemployment. To assist in this task the Council, working with partners in both the public and private sectors, is delivering a range of employability programmes to support people to overcome barriers into employment. Support includes training, skills development, wage subsidies and childcare provision.

Progress continues with the implementation of our Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy designed to revitalise North Ayrshire and to build a vibrant local economy.

The Economic Development Regeneration Board meets four times a year to oversee implementation of this three year business plan.

A key part of this work is the development of a marketing strategy which is aimed at promoting North Ayrshire and attracting new businesses to the area.

Support for business includes:

- The creation of a growth programme to support, develop and grow businesses with potential in North Ayrshire, initially looking to support 165 local businesses.
- The development of a new investment service to coordinate activity and build on the strengths of the Enterprise Area and support key sector development work, focusing on engineering, tourism, food and drink and energy.
- An integrated team approach to deliver business support for North Ayrshire companies, including inward investors

Percentage of working age population in employment	
2011/12	61.5%
2012/13	61.7% (<i>December 2012</i>)

Number of Economic Development clients moving into work	
2011/12	1169
2012/13	1130

The recession has had a particularly negative impact on young people in North Ayrshire. We have therefore agreed to increase the number of Modern Apprentices supported by the Council from 90 to 180 placements.

During the course of 2012/13 28 apprentices were employed in more traditional hands-on roles, including electricians, plasterers, joiners, plumbers and builders. The programme has been a great success and we are committed to continuing to develop craft apprenticeships in the years to come.

Our Economic Development Service also invests in a separate Modern Apprenticeship programme for local businesses by providing a wage subsidy. This programme has already recruited over 50 apprentices and is expected to expand to over 200 in the next two years. A programme to help graduates has also been developed.

In April 2013, the Council submitted a funding bid to the Youth Employment Scotland (YES) programme, which will allow our existing Youth Employment programmes to support a greater number of young people and employers.

Case Study

Mary started with a travel company in September 2012 as a Travel Consultant through the YES programme. Mary's daily work routine included selling and advising on holidays, researching destinations, selling foreign exchange and insurance, filing, answering calls and most importantly dealing with the public. Training throughout the first six months included, 25 NVQ online modules.

Mary excelled in this post very quickly and has moved into a Modern Apprenticeship in Travel Services part funded by North Ayrshire Council.

Mary said "Thanks to North Ayrshire Council for the excellent training I received through the YES programme. This has led to my position as Travel Consultant. I love my job and look forward to a long career in travel".

** Name has been changed to protect confidentiality*

Case Study

Shirley started with a local legal firm in September 2012 as an Administrative Assistant through YES. Shirley's duties included managing reception, indexing files, dictations, dealing with clients and arranging appointments.

After successfully completing YES and securing a permanent position, Shirley is currently undergoing training for Court and Family Law Secretary, which includes creating client files, sending letters and assisting solicitors.

Shirley said: "Before YES I was very shy, reserved and lacked self-confidence. After completing the STRIVE programme I am able to speak to customers and deal with any issues or concerns with ease. The course gave me a reason to get up in the morning.

** Name has been changed to protect confidentiality*

Case Study

John started in May 2012 as a machine operator through YES. John's duties included loading and lacing machines, ensuring they were running correctly and carrying out quality checks. John has now moved on to being a packer, where he is responsible for wrapping pallets, managing orders, stock checks and assisting with general housekeeping.

John said: "Through the Job Centre I was given the opportunity to begin the YES programme. I then found work with a local company, gained training and sustained full time employment. Securing employment has given me a positive future and a better lifestyle for me and my family. I would recommend the YES programme to anyone."

** Name has been changed to protect confidentiality*

Quotes

"I have now started an apprenticeship and in 3 years I hope to be qualified in accounts. I have gained experience using Sage and look forward to learning new skills in college which I can transfer to the workplace. My confidence grows each day and I am glad to receive this opportunity in conjunction with North Ayrshire Council's Apprentice Scheme."

"After leaving James Watt College, I was lucky enough to receive an apprenticeship. I enjoy getting my hands dirty and happy assisting customers with their brake/exhaust problems and ultimately knowing that their vehicle remains roadworthy."

Enterprise Area

In 2012 Irvine was granted Enterprise Area Status, which will boost our efforts to bring new businesses and more employment opportunities to the area. Businesses locating to the Enterprise Area are offered incentives including business rate discounts for Life Sciences companies, major capital allowances for companies investing in new plant and machinery, and simplified planning procedures. The Enterprise Area allows the area to build on the existing Life Sciences sector within North Ayrshire, which includes major employers such as GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Sigma Aldrich and DSM.

The first investment announced within the Enterprise Area was by GlaxoSmithKline. The £50m investment will increase their manufacturing production capacity for antibiotics, and will also see investment in sustainable green energy production and environmentally friendly manufacturing technologies. In January 2013, the Scottish Government announced funding of £1.5m to allow around 10,000 square feet of new office space to be provided at Annickbank within the Enterprise Area.

Town Centre Regeneration

We continue to support town centre regeneration work. Irvine Town Centre is undergoing a major programme of works including the refurbishment of Bridgegate House and Trinity Church. The new Customer Centre opened in April and work on the new £21m Community and Cultural Leisure centre will begin later in 2013.

Work progresses within Largs, Kilbirnie and Beith including improvements to shop fronts, road surfacing, conservation repairs and car parking.

A £520,000 joint project between North Ayrshire Council and Irvine Bay Regeneration Company (IBRC) to upgrade homes and businesses in Kilwinning was also undertaken. The project has transformed a prominent building within the town centre and will help enhance the visual appearance of the area and attract new business. This is part of the IBRC wider regeneration goals for Kilwinning Town Centre.

We also continue to support developments within Millport, specifically around safeguarding a sustainable future for the Marine Biological Station. Other priorities within the wider Millport town centre area are also being considered for improvement.

Council Housing

Our house building programme continued throughout 2012/13.

- Copeland Crescent, Millport is a rural affordable housing development, specifically aimed at housing older people. The development will deliver 12 new amenity bungalows of which one will be fully accessible. The project is due for completion in September 2013.
- Redstone Avenue, Kilwinning will deliver 46 new houses of which three will be amenity and six will be fully accessible. The project is due for completion in July 2014.
- The redevelopment of Vineburgh is a six year £37m project between Cunninghame Housing Association (CHA) and the Council. Phase 1 and 2 of the redevelopment of Vineburgh have been successfully completed delivering 176 new homes. A further 63 homes will be delivered in phase 3 which will be completed in September 2013.

% of council dwellings that meet the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS)	
2011/12	80.4%
2012/13	90.5%

We continue to improve housing stock to meet and exceed the Scottish Housing Quality Standard (SHQS). We are in the top 25% of all Scottish Local Authorities for the percentage of council dwellings that meet the SHQS.

Roads

Every year North Ayrshire's roads network is assessed to determine how much of our road network requires maintenance. Using the national Roads Condition Indicator (RCI) we can compare our roads with authorities across the country. We are currently the 5th most improved road network in Scotland.

By targeting our resources on priority work we have exceeded our target for 2012/13 and reduced the percentage of roads requiring maintenance by 5.2% over the last two years.

Working in partnership with Network Rail, Scotrail and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) we developed a 134 space Park and Ride car park facility adjacent to Kilwinning Railway Station - much needed by the community. The rail transport hub provides connections to both the South and North Coast areas of Ayrshire from Glasgow, including both Glasgow Prestwick and Glasgow International Airports, delivering benefits for both commuters and the local community.

We successfully delivered the 2012/13 winter and weather emergencies plan that included the extreme weather experienced by Arran in late March, which was reported as being the worst weather in 50 years.

Improvements during 2012/13 included:

- 45km of carriageway resurfacing
- New Park and Ride facility in Kilwinning
- Winter and Weather Emergencies plan
- Development of robust national benchmarking information

Overall percentage of road network that should be considered for maintenance treatment	
2011/12	43.8%
2012/13	42.7%

Street Cleansing Performance

Our street cleansing performance is measured through the Local Environmental Audit Management System (LEAMS). During 2012/13 our LEAMS score continued to improve. Our Streetscene operations continued to work with local businesses to ensure the area is presented to a high standard. An example of this partnership approach can be demonstrated in our work within the Enterprise Area. The rapid removal of fly-tipping was acknowledged by our partners Irvine Bay Regeneration Company who said our service was "prompt" and "very appreciated".

Street Cleanliness Index (LEAMS)	
2011/12	74
2012/13	75

Newton Beach, Millport has been awarded Blue Flag status by Keep Scotland Beautiful. The beach is recognised for its excellent litter management, safety procedures and water quality.

Play Areas

Over the past four years significant investment has been made in our play equipment which has resulted in all facilities now meeting the European Standard for equipped play areas.

Protecting vulnerable people

Given the long term increase in demand for Council services, we will continue to examine the way we plan, purchase and deliver care, while ensuring customer choice remains at the very heart of what the Council offers.

Personalisation

More vulnerable people are being supported to live independently in their own homes with Telecare technology. This technology includes alarms and fall detectors and alerts a monitoring station when there is an emergency or incident in the home.

In 2012, we launched the new Dementia Support Service providing specialised support for people and their carers affected by the condition, available in service users homes or in the local community. The Service also produces a North Ayrshire Dementia Newsletter every three months containing information about local services, national dementia issues and practical advice.

Case Study

Mary's husband Joe was diagnosed with early stage Alzheimer's in June last year. Mary and Joe have been attending memory café sessions where they have been given information and support. The memory cafes have allowed them to meet other people with similar experiences as well as the Dementia Support Service workers.

** Names have been changed to protect confidentiality*

Percentage of people aged 65+ with intensive needs receiving care at home

2011/12	34.79%
2012/13	38.13

Early Intervention and Prevention

The Council and its partners are committed to improving the life chances of our children and young people by shifting our resources into early intervention and prevention. We are taking action which will ensure that children are nurtured and can access the opportunities which will help them succeed. We committed £0.9m in 2012 and £1.9 million in 2013/14 to deliver a range of initiatives designed to support positive parenting, to ensure children are safe and cared for in a nurturing home and are well placed to cope with life's challenges.

The Community Planning Partnership works with the National Early Years Collaborative whose aim is to create transformational change in the early years. Its ambition is to make Scotland the best place in the world to grow up. Through the CPP's Early Intervention and Prevention programme, we are supporting the Collaborative and driving forward change to improve outcomes for our children.

A Multi Agency Domestic Abuse Response Team (MADART) was launched in August 2012 to improve how Services respond to incidents of domestic abuse. The Team includes staff from Strathclyde Police, Social Services, Housing and Health.

Foster Care

Foster care is a valuable way of providing care for children, in a family setting, who cannot live with their own families. Children can be cared for by a foster family for weeks, months or for the rest of their childhood depending on their circumstances. Many children will come from chaotic and disruptive environments and are provided with a safe and supportive setting in which they can thrive.

Our targets for foster placements have been met, with 135 foster placements by 31st March 2013. An advertising campaign commenced in May 2013, including radio adverts, local newspaper features and bill boards. The Council website has also been updated and a number of foster carers are featured detailing the rewards of the fostering task.

Kinship Care

Kinship carers play an important role in terms of caring for vulnerable young people who would otherwise be cared for either in residential or foster care. For many children, who are unable to be looked after by birth parents, extended family members can provide a safe and caring environment which can sustain them through their childhood. At the end of March 2013 we had 159 kinship carers and 169 children in kinship care placements. North Ayrshire were the third highest of all Scottish Local Authorities in terms of the numbers of children in kinship care placement.

Child Protection

We have provided child protection training and awareness raising sessions for staff to ensure our workforce are clear on their responsibilities with regard to Getting it Right For Every Child (GIRFEC).

We have developed common processes with partner agencies which clearly identify a Named Person and a Lead Professional when accessing support. A dedicated website <http://www.girfecna.co.uk> has been created to share information with children, young people, their families and professionals.

We have underlined our commitment to Child Protection in adopting new national guidelines. Following the introduction of the National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland we reviewed and revised all our child protection policies and procedures, ensuring that we deliver very effective child protection services based on current best practice.

Our improvements include, better response to concerns about unborn children and improved understanding of the individual risk/concern factors affecting children in need of protection.

We have also contributed to the development of a new National Risk Framework to support the assessment of children and young people published in December 2012.

We continue to implement our Multi Agency Self Evaluation Strategy to inform our programmes of continuous improvement. This work has proved useful in evaluating our child protection services for the Joint Inspection of Children's Services conducted by the Care Inspectorate in March and April 2013.

Percentage of families placed on the child protection register who have previously been deregistered within 12 months	
2011/12	6%
2012/13	2%

Independent Assessment of Care Services

The Care Inspectorate conducted 27 inspections in 2012/13, some unannounced, across our residential care homes, day centers, care at home services, support services and fostering services. The table below shows the breakdown of the outcomes of each inspection, revealing that the majority were good and above:

Number of Inspections 27				
Quality Grade	Care & Support	Staffing	Environment	Management & Leadership
Excellent				
Very Good	13	14	10	10
Good	8	8	5	7
Adequate	5	3	1	5
Weak		1	2*	3*
Unsatisfactory	1*			
Not Applicable/Assessed		1	9	2

* Montrose House, Arran, was inspected 4 times over the last year and considerable improvement made in accordance with the development plan put in place. At the last inspection in May 2013, the service had demonstrated significant improvement with gradings moving from 'Unsatisfactory' to 'Good' in the area of care and support, from 'Weak' to 'Good' in the area of environment, from 'Weak' to 'Adequate' in the area of management and leadership and 'Adequate' to 'Good' for staffing. We have a robust quality framework in place and take prompt action to achieve improvements.

Preventing Homelessness

Our innovative approach to housing options and homelessness has been highlighted as a model which should be adopted by local authorities across Scotland, by preventing homelessness occurring in the first place. Since 2008 we have had a 54% reduction in homeless presentations.

Examples of good practice include talking through all possible options with an individual to secure a planned rather than crisis move and actively offering mediation and negotiation services for those individuals who can safely return home rather than become homeless. This option will not be appropriate for everyone but can often offer a positive outcome for a significant number of households.

Our Homelessness Team also work closely with NHS Ayrshire and Arran to address the health needs of homeless people within North Ayrshire and we now ensure that every homeless person is registered with a GP, has access to dental health care and public health services.

Reductions in homeless presentations	Actuals	% reduction
2011/12	710	7.3%
2012/13	656	7.6%

Equality

Promoting equality is one of the North Ayrshire Council's core values. The principles of equality and fairness are central to all of our activities. We have made progress in integrating the principles of equality throughout the Council ensuring that Equality Impact Assessments are completed for new policies and functions and undertaking a programme of assessments for existing policies.

The Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) (Scotland) Regulations 2012 requires that we publish a set of equality outcomes which we believe will further help to eliminate discrimination, advance equality and foster good relations. Further information on our equality outcomes is available on our website.

Improving educational attainment

Initial analysis of the 2012/2013 SQA exam results indicate that 79% of S4 pupils in North Ayrshire achieved 5 or more Standard Grades at general level (or equivalent) and 34% of S4 pupils achieved five or more at credit level, or equivalent. These represent our best S4 performance at every level in the last ten years.

At S5, 40% achieved one or more Highers, or equivalent awards, a slight reduction on the 42% achieved last year and in S6 the performance at Higher and Advanced Higher was the strongest in the last ten years.

Raising attainment is a key priority for the Council and Education and Skills. Specific areas of work have focussed on:

- Improving teaching and learning
- Improving monitoring and tracking
- Supporting programmes to raise self-esteem and aspirations
- Working with families and communities

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 3 or better (by end of S4)	
2011/12	96.77%
2012/13	98.21% (<i>pre appeal</i>)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better (by end of S4)	
2011/12	76.7%
2012/13	79.5% (<i>pre appeal</i>)

5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better (by end of S4)	
2011/12	30.5%
2012/13	33.5% (<i>pre appeal</i>)

3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better (by end of S5)	
2011/12	23.4%
2012/13	20.3% (<i>pre appeal</i>)

We have put in place new and innovative partnership working with the University of Glasgow to launch a teaching school at Irvine Royal Academy.

Implementing the Curriculum for Excellence

Significant progress has been made in taking forward the Curriculum for Excellence and improving outcomes for children and young people in North Ayrshire.

Schools have further developed and enhanced their approaches to providing personal support to children and young people and have continued to mentor pupils to further raise attainment levels. More effective rigorous tracking of pupil progress and target setting has been achieved in the 2012/13 session with updated pupil reports providing more focused information on progress for pupils and their parents.

Initiatives such as Pupil Support Services' Extended Outreach and school based 16+/Post School Coordinators have provided effective support to school leavers in North Ayrshire and have supported pupils in a variety of ways including assistance with college, university and job application forms as well as mock preparatory interviews.

Schools have worked closely with external partners including Skills Development Scotland and Further/Higher Education sectors to enhance this support which has helped 89.9% of our 2011/12 school leavers to achieve positive post-school destinations.

Case Study

For some school pupils, a flexible work placement over a period of time is appropriate. John was becoming disengaged in his classes but a weekly experience in a real work environment within the Council's Building Services workshop resulted not only in re-engagement with classes but a decision to stay on at school and improve his qualifications and prospects.

** Name has been changed to protect confidentiality*

Percentage of young people choosing to stay on to S5

2011/12	73.4%
2012/13	73.6% (provisional)

Self Evaluation

In September 2012 a successful Validated Self Evaluation (VSE) exercise was undertaken, which involved evaluating the areas of Early Years Provision, Raising Attainment and Achievement and Meeting the Needs of all Learners. This exercise indicated significant areas of strength which included: the provision of high quality services, strong effective leadership by senior officers and elected members, very effective early years work leading to effective prevention and early intervention and strong additional support for learning provision - particularly for children with social and emotional difficulties. The evaluation also highlighted strengths in the provision of excellent staff training and CPD opportunities.

The exercise identified a number of areas for improvement, including the need to further build capacity for parents and learners to participate in the development and delivery of services and to develop a consistent approach to learning and teaching across the service. These areas for improvement will be progressed during 2013/14.

Community Capacity

Community capacity continues to increase, including further developments in community sports clubs and health and well-being initiatives, such as those at Eglinton Country Park, where visitor number have exceeded 300,000 this year.

The Harbour Arts Centre and Heritage Centre continues to offer a wide range of exhibitions, schools' events and cultural and heritage activities for children, young people and adults. Library visits have exceeded one million for the first time. The range of digital services has been extended to include a new website, e-books, a mobile phone library app and digital magazines.

Nurturing Excellence funds have been established to support young people in arts and culture and more than 100 young people have benefitted from the Nurturing Excellence in Sport initiative with

community partners. Participation in KA Leisure sports and physical activities also continues to increase.

Community capacity building and empowerment of individuals and groups has resulted in young people participating in the elections for the Scottish Youth Parliament with a recorded 62% turn-out being one of the highest in Scotland.

We continue to discuss with our partners in the community, options for managing community centres and establishing local development trusts.

Operating more efficiently and effectively

Change Programme

Our ambitious change programme ensures we deliver the best possible services to communities within available resources. Our improvements include:

- Investment in the ICT infrastructure to meet future requirements including wireless technology in schools and faster internet access to schools and libraries.
- The creation of a corporate transport hub facility to manage all transport functions. The provision of the centralised operation enhances planning, budgeting, scheduling, procurement, regulation and health and safety compliance. The corporate transport hub will deliver significant savings to the Council.
- The successful trials of a proposed new Hub and Spoke school catering model which will now be introduced throughout all schools from August 2013. The new model has involved the creation of 25 hub kitchens. Meals will be cooked and served within each hub kitchen and delivered for serving in the remaining 39 spoke kitchens.
- Building Services continued their good progress in providing an efficient and effective property repairs, maintenance and improvement service. They are on target to achieve 15% efficiency gains by providing value for money while focusing on customer needs. The development of a new innovative workflow planning and coordination unit enables a 'right first time' approach to customer service. Other key improvements for 2013 include the procurement of an improved IT operating system and the extension of electronic mobile working technology.
- Implementing technical solutions that allow staff to work securely from any location.

Customer Service

During 2012/13 three key projects were implemented to improve the service delivered to the residents of North Ayrshire:

- **Website**

Our new website is designed to make it easier for customers to access more services. Feedback from our customers helped inform the layout of the website. The role of our web team is to analyse the customer experience, identify improvements, update content and work to encourage more customers to use the website to contact the Council.

- **Bridgegate Customer Service Centre**

Our Customer Service Centre in Bridgegate offers residents a wide range of services including Social Services, Housing and the Municipal Bank. The second phase of development will see Council Tax, Benefits and Registrations transfer to this office. The service is serving an average of 300 customers per day with the ability to provide access to multiple services in a single point of contact. In 2013 we changed the telephone numbers for calling the Contact Centre to make it easier and more cost effective to contact us. The 0845 numbers have been replaced with a single number – 01294 310000.

- **Complaint Handling Procedure**

The Council has introduced a new two stage complaint handling procedure which is designed to make it easier for customers. The new procedure will provide useful statistics on the root cause of complaints enabling services to use complaints to drive service improvements.

Numbers of customers expressing dissatisfaction formally	
2011/12	572
2012/13	869

The volume of formal complaints has gone up since 2011. This is due to the new complaint handling procedure which requires services to record complaints which would previously have been classed as informal and not reported.

Sustainability

The Council's carbon emissions are reported regularly. As part of our Carbon Management Programme, we have put in place a Strategic Implementation Plan to help reduce our carbon footprint. All services who manage energy and waste contribute to the reduction by implementing projects that help lower consumption, for example, through energy awareness campaigns, technical improvements, waste reduction and purchase of low carbon vehicles.

Actual carbon dioxide emissions in tonnes of CO2	
2011/12	57,228
2012/13	57,208

Recycling and Waste Management

The amount of waste being recycled continues to increase and exceeds the national target of 40%. Implementation of our Waste Strategy continued to progress with the introduction of a new organic waste collection service for food and garden waste and improvements to the kerbside blue bin recycling service through the addition of glass.

Our Waste Services implemented a new waste management ICT system which will contribute to the improving the day-to-day management of the waste collection service and will assist in delivering improved customer service and reducing customer complaints.

New recycling bins funded from Zero Waste Scotland were introduced which will help people to 'recycle on the go'. The bins are designed to make it possible to recycle a range of materials, including paper, plastics, cans, glass, cartons and small amounts of cardboard. In total, 23 new recycling bins and 10 recycling points will be installed in busy public areas throughout North Ayrshire to improve facilities and make it easier for people to recycle on the go.

Percentage of household waste recycled and composted	
2011/12	52.5%
2012/13	53.3%

We are in the top 25% of all Scottish Councils for recycling household waste.

We have signed up as formal members of the Clyde Valley Residual Waste Project to procure a long term residual waste treatment solution for non-recyclable waste through a partnership approach with four other Clyde Valley Local Authorities.

Planning

For the second year running, our Planning Service was the top performing authority in Scotland for processing the highest amount of planning applications within statutory timescales. Use of the Council's 'e-planning' portal continued to increase last year, with over half of all planning applications submitted electronically.

Attendance

Reducing sickness absence levels and associated costs has continued to be a key Council priority. Priorities include closer monitoring and reporting of the application of the Maximising Attendance procedures together with offering employees support from Occupational Health and other professionals, which is expected to reduce sickness absence levels across all Council services.

A working group of Service Managers, Human Resources support and Trade Union representatives completed a review of the maximising Attendance procedure in June 2013 and the revised procedure will be launched and supported from September 2013. The Corporate Health and Safety team are also reviewing absence information by causal factors to support services with improved controls and training in service areas which have seen significant increases in specific causes, e.g. manual-handling or stress related absences. In addition, during the recent restructure of Human Resources and Organisational Development, changes to posts have resulted in a new post to support and develop use of insight and intelligence around maximising attendance data/information in order to further support services in being able to manage attendance effectively.

The average number of working days per full-time equivalent employee lost through sickness absence	2011/12	2012/13
Teachers	5.9	6.6
Other employees	9.8	10.3
All employees	8.8	9.4

Governance

The Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with legislation and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Annual Governance Statement explains how North Ayrshire Council is complying with the Code. Our internal review process highlighted satisfaction with how the Council is complying with the Code.

Comparing Performance

We are committed to improving outcomes for the residents of North Ayrshire. We want to know if we are delivering our Services effectively.

Comparing performance, often known as benchmarking, will support change and improvement within the Council by learning how better performing organisations achieve their results.

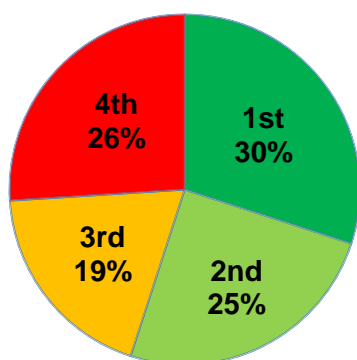
The Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (SOLACE) has worked with the Improvement Service and Councils to develop a set of performance indicators that will help us compare our performance and identify improvements across all major service areas with other Councils.

This is a new approach for local government and we will use this to work better for our local communities and residents.

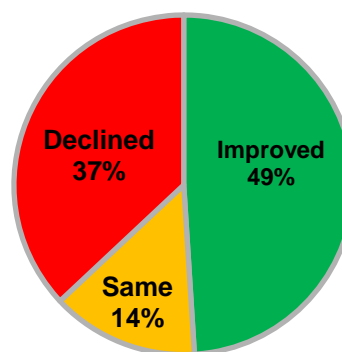
The SOLACE set of indicators will continue to be developed to provide a representative picture of Council performance across Scotland.

Initial analysis of the indicators for which we have complete and robust data shows a picture of North Ayrshire as an improving Council despite the socio-economic and geographic challenges to our area. We are in the top 25% of Scottish Councils for 30% of indicators and 63% of indicators show an improvement or remain the same compared to other Councils.

PIs BY QUARTILE OF ALL COUNCILS



POSITION COMPARED TO OTHER COUNCILS



Further information on the SOLACE indicators and our performance relative to other Councils can be found on the Council's website at North Ayrshire Performs.

Some of our improvements areas are noted below:

- We are working with Clackmannanshire, West Dunbartonshire and Renfrewshire Councils to identify actions that will improve the performance of our Council Tax collection.
- Roads Services are benchmarking their activities with the Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) and the Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland (SCOTS) to ensure that areas for improvement and cost reductions are identified. This has been supported by the creation of a set of national performance indicators.
- Planning Services are undertaking benchmarking activities with other authorities to further enhance the customer experience.
- Social Services have established a Benchmarking Working Group with East Ayrshire, Inverclyde, West Dunbartonshire and Dundee City Councils. The first proposed area of joint work is in relation to mental health services for young people and partnership working with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

Audit Scotland already publish information on local authorities and this can be found at: <http://www.audit-scotland.gov.uk/performance/>

Further progress in benchmarking will be made in 2013.

Finance

North Ayrshire Council continued to face significant financial challenges in 2012/13 as a result of the reduction in grant funding due to the national contraction of public sector funding in the current economic climate aligned to the on-going crisis in the Eurozone. This reduction in funding is happening at the same time as demand for services is rising.

The Council continues to be proactive in addressing the financial challenge it faces, delivering significant savings and progressing its transformation programme. Since 2010/11 the Council has delivered almost £32m of savings. However, the ongoing issues around the economy and fewer ways to deliver savings mean that future budgeting is more challenging.

We are focusing on new approaches to service provision such as early intervention and prevention and Neighbourhood Planning to target resources on the services which make the greatest contribution to delivering the Council's core priorities.

When the Council set its budget for 2013/14 in January 2013 it approved savings of £20.763m into 2015/16 with a funding gap of £3.778m remaining in 2015/16. In addition the Council, at its meeting in May 2013, approved the Council's Financial Strategy up to 2022/23 noting the additional anticipated funding gap of £68m over this period.

The long term financial plan provides an overview of the financial challenge the Council faces over this 10 year period, including the uncertainty of future funding levels. By looking at both the long and short term the Council is in a better position to begin developing longer term mitigation strategies and ensure the future sustainability of key services and financial stability of the Council.

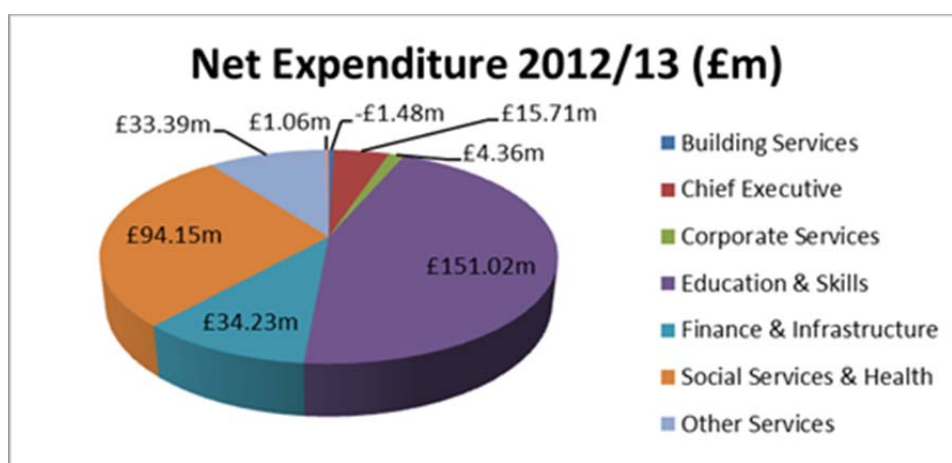
During 2012/13 the Council has:

- Effectively balanced its budgets despite significantly reduced resources
- Continued to align resources with the Council's key objectives
- Generated further efficiencies to meet budget shortfalls and ensure protection of key services
- Strengthened financial governance and increased transparency and accountability in the management of its resources

Revenue Expenditure

The information set out in the table and chart below provides a high level summary of how the Council spent its money on services in 2012/13.

	Gross expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
	£m	£m	£m
Building Services	18.755	20.231	(1.476)
Chief Executive	22.129	6.422	15.707
Corporate Services	12.863	8.503	4.360
Education & Skills	161.781	10.757	151.024
Finance & Infrastructure	142.723	108.491	34.232
Social Services & Health	124.278	30.129	94.149
Other Services	33.849	0.457	33.392
HRA	48.525	47.468	1.057
	564.903	232.458	332.445



Capital Expenditure

The Council's gross capital expenditure in 2012/13 amounted to £51.666m. This was financed by the sale of assets, grants, transfers from revenue and supported by prudential borrowing. The table below summarises the position for the year:

	<u>General Services</u>	<u>Housing Revenue Account</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>	<u>£m</u>
Housing Revenue Account		24.521	24.521
General Services:			
• Finance and Corporate Support	5.831		5.831
• Education and Skills	10.638		10.638
• Development and Environment	9.639		9.639
• Social Services and Health	1.037		1.037
Gross Capital Expenditure	27.145	24.521	51.666
Financed by -			
Sale of Assets	0.018	1.545	1.563
Grants	13.057	1.912	14.969
Transfers from Revenue	2.966	13.057	16.023
Use of Reserves	3.806	-	3.806
Prudential Borrowing	7.298	8.007	15.305
	27.145	24.521	51.666

Compared to the final budget of £28.823m, the General Services capital expenditure was £0.969m below budget of which £0.619m was due to slippage and acceleration in projects between financial years. A further £0.277m relates to Strathclyde Partnership for Transport projects which will no longer proceed. The remaining balance of £0.0.73m will be carried forward to assist in funding new projects in 2013/14 and later years.

The Housing Revenue Account capital programme spent £1.047m less than its budget of £25.568m. The underspend is due to slippage and acceleration of various projects between financial years and will be carried forward to fund the approved programme for 2013/14.

The Council is committed to providing local people with financial information that explains the main sources of Council income and how that money is spent. A summary of the Council's accounts is available on the Council website.

Further information on the Council's performance is available on the [North Ayrshire Performs](#) section of the Council's website which shows all the latest information on how the Council and the other member organisations of the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership are performing against a range of commitments to achieve our shared vision of 'North Ayrshire – A Better Life'.

2012/13 Performance Indicators





The following pages contain a range of performance information that is reported by the Council.






In a small number of indicators, 2012/13 performance data is not yet available, due to a time lag in production of the data.

All indicators are subject to internal and external audit on a sample basis.

Where available, performance data covering the last three financial years is included in the table. Data which is not available will be published on the Council's website as soon as it is obtainable. More data about the targets we set for our performance and how it compares with other Councils is available on our website at:













www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/northayrshireperforms

Trend Key	Improving	Worsening	No Change	Unable to calculate trend
One Year Trend				

PI Status Key	
	Significantly adrift of target
	Slightly adrift of target
	On target
	Unable to calculate status
	Data Only

Council Plan Indicators

1. Regenerating our communities and increasing employment 1.1 Economic Development and Regeneration

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Dependency ratio (number of dependents per 100 working age people)	67	58	57.4	58		
Number of ED clients entering employment through ED sponsored initiatives	1,120	1,169	1,130	1,056		
Number of modern apprentices on North Ayrshire Council programmes at 31 March	24	90	81	90		
Number of new businesses per 10,000 working age population	30.3	36.5	33	43.8		
Percentage of working age population in employment	61.3%	61.5%	62.2%	62%		
Total population of North Ayrshire	135,180	138,090	137,560			

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Tourism visitor numbers	1,142,420	1,125,300	1,137,860	1,188,116		
Tourist visitor expenditure	£117,730m	£123,650m	£132,470m	£122,439m		
Youth claimant count			10.7%			

1.2 Cultural and Community Services

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
No of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums per 1000 population	611	652	889	655		
No of visits to/usages of council funded or part funded museums that were in person per 1000 population	509	588	498	590		
Number of Active volunteers who have participated in training delivered by Community and Culture	2,096	1,754	1,389	4,000		
Number of attendances per 1,000 population for indoor sports and leisure facilities	5,046	5,765	7,689	5,937		
Number of attendances per 1,000 population to all pools	2,748	2,706	2,931	2,694		
Number of Library visits per 1000 population	6,721	7,929	8,265	6,500		

1.3 Housing Quality

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Energy efficient	86%	95.5%	96.3%	85%		
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Free from serious disrepair	88%	92.5%	98.1%	85%		
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Healthy, safe and secure	93%	96.3%	98.2%	85%		
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Modern facilities and services	85%	95.7%	97.3%	85%		
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Tolerable standard	95%	97.4%	99.7%	85%		
The percentage of the council's housing stock up to the SHQS - Total dwellings meeting SHQS	60%	80.4%	90.5%	85%		

1.4 Community Safety

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of residents within North Ayrshire who feel unsafe walking in their neighbourhood after dark	35%	31%	30%	31%	✓	↑
Number of antisocial behaviour complaints (serious and persistent)	227	278	291	240	✓	↑

1.5 Roads

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of Class A roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	46.7%	44.4%	36.3%	45%	✓	↑
% of Class B roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	46.1%	42.8%	38.8%	45%	✓	↑
% of Class C roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	58.6%	55.8%	49.7%	55.7%	✓	↑
Overall percentage of road network that should be considered for maintenance treatment	47.9%	43.8%	42.7%	46%	✓	↑
Percentage of Unclassified roads that should be considered for maintenance treatment	44.6%	39.6%	42.3%	42.4%	✓	↓

2. Protecting vulnerable people

2.1 Community Care

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of people aged 65 or over with intensive needs receiving care at home	30.9%	37.2%	38.13%	30%	✓	↑
Number of patients waiting more than four weeks for appropriate discharge		3	0	0	✓	↑
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving a service at weekends	80.5%	84.53%	86%	84%	✓	↑
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving a service during evening/overnight	39.4%	46.33%	47.54%	45%	✓	↑
Percentage of homecare clients aged 65+ receiving personal care	98.4%	98.55%	97.29%	99%	⚠	↓
Total number of homecare hours provided as a rate per 1,000 population aged 65+	413.2	482	522.28	450	✓	↑
Volume of respite care (adults 18-64) daytime	16,013	16,162	118,226		📈	↑
Volume of respite care (older people 65+) daytime hours	95,990	92,093	90,216	91,000	✓	↓

2.2 Criminal Justice

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Percentage of individuals subject to level 1 Community Payback Order Unpaid Work completed within 3 months			54.63%	50%		
Percentage of individuals subject to level 2 Community Payback Order Unpaid Work completed within 6 months			61.31%	75%		

2.3 Child Protection and Children's Services

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Balance of Care for Children Looked After	90.22%	90.13%	90.38%	90%		
Percentage of children in a kinship care placement subject to residence order		10.47%	21.92%	15%		
Percentage of children seen by a supervising officer within 15 days of a Supervision Requirement being made	93.81%	92.86%	89.25%	100%		
Percentage of families placed on the Child Protection register who have previously been deregistered within 12 months	4%	6%	2%	5%		
Percentage of social background reports submitted within 20 days		70.43%	63.17%	75%		

2.4 Homelessness

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Homelessness: Number of presentations	766	710	656			
Perm Accom: Percentage of cases reassessed within 12 months of completion of duty	4.8%	5.7%	5.9%	6%		
Perm Accom: Percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days of date of initial presentation	98.3%	99.4%	99%	99%		
Perm Accom: Percentage who are housed into permanent accommodation	67.5%	69.2%	72%	65%		
Temp Accom: Percentage of cases reassessed within 12 months of completion of duty	1.9%	1.5%	0.3%	1.5%		
Temp Accom: Percentage of decision notifications issued within 28 days of date of initial presentation	99.3%	96.7%	95.5%	95%		
The proportion of those provided with perm accom who maintained their tenancy for at least 12 months	90.2%	85%	87%	80%		

3. Improving educational attainment

3.1 Attainment

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of pupils gaining 3 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better (by end of S5)	19.7%	23.4%	20.3%	21%		
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 3 or better (by end of S4)	95.5%	96.77%	98.21%	96%		
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 4 or better (by end of S4)	74.1%	76.7%	79.5%	77%		
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 5 or better (by end of S4)	32.4%	30.5%	33.5%	31%		
% of pupils gaining 5 or more awards at SCQF Level 6 or better (by end of S6)	19.6%	18.5%	22.6%	22%		
% of young people choosing to stay onto S5 (Jan S5 roll), as % of S4 roll at September previous year	70.5%	73.4%	73.6%	72%		
Average Tariff Score – S4	179	179	190	181		
Looked After Children: Average Tariff Score – S4	89	95	Not available	95		

3.2 Exclusions

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Exclusion Incidents per 1000 pupils – Primary Schools	10.06	7.54	5.73	10		
Exclusion Incidents per 1000 pupils – Secondary Schools	83.74	79.95	65.8	90		

3.3 Attendance

















Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Percentage Attendance – Primary Schools	94.63%	95.16%	94.74%	95.5%		
Percentage Attendance – Secondary Schools	91.45%	92.12%	91.96%	92%		

3.4 Destination of school leavers

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of school leavers entering positive destinations	90.7%	89.9%	Not available	86.5%		

4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 1. Providing cost effective and efficient services





4.01 Revenues and Service Costs

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Capital Expenditure - General Services - Actual expenditure as a percentage of budgeted expenditure		95.36%	96.6%	100%		
Capital Expenditure - Housing Revenue Account - Actual expenditure as a percentage of budgeted expenditure		94.55%	95.9%	100%		
Corporate and democratic core costs per 1,000 population	£32,904	£28,173	SOLACE PI – Data not available	£26,369		
Cost of collecting council tax per dwelling	£12.17	£11.70	£11.05	£12.85		
Level of unearmarked reserves as a percentage of revenue budget		1.8%	1.9%	1.5%		
Percentage of income due from council tax received by the end of the year %	93.6%	93.6%	93.5%	93.9%		
Percentage of invoices sampled that were paid within 30 days	88.1%	82.5%	81.57%	90%		
Procurement Capability Assessment (%)	27%	34%	51%	46%		
Support services as a percentage of total gross expenditure	2.5%	2.8%	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
The gross administration cost per benefits case	£41.31	£38.00	£40.36	£40.60		

4.02 Cultural and Community Services

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Cost per attendance at sports facilities £	£4.07	£3.79	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Cost per library visit £	£2.98	£2.74	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Cost per museum visit £	£1.09	£0.48	SOLACE PI – Data not available			

4.03 Housing

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Spend on repairs and maintenance per property £	1,058	1,064	1,187			
Spend on supervision and management per property £	528	509	485			

4.04 Community Care

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Home care costs for people aged 65 or over per hour £	£23.56	£19.04	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Self directed support spend for people aged over 18 as a % of total social work spend on adults	0.9%	1.3%	SOLACE PI – Data not available			

4.05 Child Protection and Children's Services

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
The gross cost of "children looked after" in a community setting per child per week £	£190.81	£200.61	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
The gross cost of "children looked after" in residential based services per child per week £	£2,918	£2,895	SOLACE PI – Data not available			









4.06 Education

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Cost per pre-school place £	£3,977	£3,804	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Cost per primary school pupil £	£5,362	£5,421	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Cost per secondary school pupil £	£6,335	£6,427	SOLACE PI – Data not available			





4.07 Roads

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Road cost per kilometre £	£8,425	£6,622	SOLACE PI – Data not available			





4.08 Waste Management Services

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of total household waste that is recycled	43.5%	52.5%	53.3%	55%		
Cost of parks & open spaces per 1,000 population £	£42,092	£44,276	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Gross waste collection cost per premises £	£70.09	£69.48	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Gross waste disposal cost per premises £	£98.89	£90.79	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Net Cost of street cleaning per 1,000 population £	£22,740	£21,135	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Net cost per household for the provision of Grounds Maintenance Services (£)	£92.42	£84.99	£88.42	£84.35		
Percentage of fly-tipping incidents on public land cleared within 7 days		98.91%	97.88%	100%		
Street Cleanliness Index	73	74	75	75		

4.09 Assets

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Proportion of internal floor area of operational buildings in satisfactory condition	82%	80.7%	71.94%	80.5%		
Proportion of operational buildings that are suitable for their current use	88.6%	91.9%	87.54%	91%		

4.10 Planning

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
The average time (weeks) to deal with major and local planning applications determined during the year : Local developments - Average time (weeks) to deal with applications			8.8	9		
The average time (weeks) to deal with major and local planning applications determined during the year : Major developments - Average time (weeks) to deal with applications			31.4	18		

4.11 Environmental Health

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Percentage of food poisoning investigations within 2 days of inquiry (EH)	95%	96%	100%	90%		
Percentage of high priority pest control requests dealt within 2 days (EH)	94%	89%	94%	90%		
Percentage of high priority public health complaints dealt within 2 days (EH)	92%	99%	98%	90%		

4.12 Trading standards

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Cost of trading standards and environmental health per 1,000 population £	£25,018	£23,126	SOLACE PI – Data not available			
Percentage of trading standards business advice requests that were dealt with in 14 days	99.2%	100%	99.7%	100%		
Percentage of trading standards consumer complaints that were dealt with in 14 days	84.2%	84.6%	89.3%	80%		

4.13 Domestic noise complaints

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Average time between time of noise complaint and attendance on site (hours)	0.9	0.8	0.6	1		
Average time between time of noise complaint and attendance on site as dealt with under the ASB Act (hours)	0.9	1	0.82	1		
The number of complaints of domestic noise received & settled without the need for attendance on site	644	679	460			
The number of complaints of noise received requiring attendance on site & not dealt with under the ASB Act	9	9	6			

4.14 Carbon emissions

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Overall carbon emissions (tonnes)	61,537	57,228	57,208	57,827		

4.15 Repairs

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
All Priority Categories: Percentage of repairs completed within the target time (all categories)	98.3%	97.7%	97.5%	98.5%		
Percentage of Aids and Adaptations within the Housing Stock completed within target by Building Services	86.67%	96.03%	96.37%	95%		

4.16 Rent Management





Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Average number of weeks rent owed by tenants leaving in arrears	5.7	4.8	5	5		
Current tenants' arrears as a percentage of net rent due in the year	4%	3.4%	3.6%	3.3%		
Percentage of current tenants owing more than 13 weeks rent (Exc those owing less than £250)	2.2%	2.1%	1.9%	2%		
Percentage of rent due in the year that was lost due to voids	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	1%		
The percentage of arrears owed by former tenants that was either written off or collected	53.82%	56.3%	50.4%	55%		
The proportion of tenants giving up their tenancy that were in rent arrears.	35%	39.7%	40.6%	35%		

4.17 Housing re-lets



Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Low demand stock: Average number of days that these houses had been un-let at year end	17	24	21	40		
Low demand stock: Average re-let time	13	18	14	16		
Not low demand stock: Average re-let time	12	14	14	16		

4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 2. Focusing on our customers







4.18 Complaints

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Number of Customer Complaints	430	572	869			
Percentage of Council Wide Complaints Handled on Time	88%	94%	81%			



4.19 Freedom of Information

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Freedom of Information requests responded to in 20 working days (%)	93%	96%	95%			

4.20 Customer satisfaction













Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Level of satisfaction with public sector partners - North Ayrshire Council	58	56	55	56		
Percentage of Customer Satisfaction for waste collection based on number of Complaints per 1000 households - (SPI)	97.71%	96.7%	96.1%	97%		
Percentage of customers who were fairly or very satisfied with the way that Public Open Spaces are looked after	72%	76%	72%	75%		

4.21 Accessibility









Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Percentage of council buildings in which all public areas are suitable for and accessible to disabled people	70%	79.21%	52.5%	70%		

4. Operating more efficiently and effectively - 3. Focusing on our employees

4.22 Employees

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
% of staff who strongly agree or agree that teamwork is important to them			95.52%			
% of staff who strongly agree or agree that their team strives to find ways to service fellow colleagues and customers better			79.4%			
Council-wide staffing numbers for North Ayrshire Council (Full-time equivalent)	5,796	5,585.2	5,644	5,449		
Incidence of Reportable Incidents per 100,000 employees	493	614	472.53	620		
The average number of days lost through sickness: all staff (excluding Teachers)	8.0	9.8	10.3	7.0		
The average number of days lost through sickness: teachers	5.50	5.90	6.60	5.60		

4.23 Equality and Diversity

Performance Indicator	2010	2011	2012	2012/13		
	Value	Value	Value	Target	Status	Short Trend
Percentage of Black and Minority Ethnic North Ayrshire Council employees	0.81%	0.71%	0.64%			
Percentage of North Ayrshire Council employees who have recorded as having a disability	1.79%	2.1%	1.49%			
The percentage of the highest paid 2% employees who are women	40.4%	46.8%	50%			
The percentage of the highest paid 5% employees who are women	46.4%	51.8%	53%			

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 4

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Call In: Consultation on a Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill**

Purpose: To advise the Cabinet of the outcome of consideration by the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee of a Call in Request in relation to a Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet considers the recommendation by the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to amend the Council's response to the Consultation on the Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting on 27 August 2013, the Cabinet received a report by the Corporate Director (Development and Environment) which (a) set out the key elements of the draft Private Member's Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill; and (b) provided a proposed consultation response from the Council, as contained in Appendix 1 to the report (Appendix A).
- 1.2 The Cabinet agreed to approve the proposed consultation response contained in Appendix 1 to the report, to be submitted on behalf of North Ayrshire Council prior to the consultation deadline of 30 August 2013. The deadline has now been extended to 11 October 2013.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 At its Special meeting on 11 September 2013, the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee considered a Call In Request in relation to the Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill (Appendix B).

- 2.2 The Call In Request was signed by Councillors Cullinane, McNamara and Montgomerie in the following terms:-

"The consultation response outlines a number of ways in which the Bill will benefit the people of North Ayrshire however concludes that on the grounds of potential costs to the council and bus operators we should oppose it. The consultation document outlines key questions one of which deals with the impact the bill may have on your organisation. Issues surrounding cost, which should be dealt with in the drafting of the legislation which will take place after the consultation, should be dealt with under this question. Cost concerns are not a primary reason for rejecting the principles of the bill and not supporting it. We agree with much of the response which does not reflect the conclusion".

The desired outcome specified by Councillors Cullinane, McNamara and Montgomerie was as follows:-

"That the committee consider the conclusion reached in the councils response and recommend support for the bill whilst noting cost concerns within the appropriate section (key question)".

- 2.3 Councillors Cullinane, McNamara and Montgomerie addressed the Committee in support of the Call In Request. Councillor Cullinane outlined the main proposal of the Bill which is to provide Transport Authorities with greater control over failing unregulated bus services in their area by enabling Authorities to regulate how these services are delivered through franchises. The Transport Authorities would be able to:-

- 'Bundle' profitable and non-profitable routes and franchise them as a package;
- Set a minimum level of service within the franchise agreed with the operator; and
- Use Local Authority fleets to provide socially useful services where there are gaps in provision.

- 2.4 The proposed Bill would also introduce new powers for the Traffic Commissioner to impose financial penalties on operators who do not meet the terms of franchises. Transport Authorities will also be able to seek redress for the cost of re-tendering routes where operators have walked away from franchise agreements.

- 2.5 Councillor Cullinane advised that cuts have been made in services within North Ayrshire as a result of routes not being economically attractive to companies. Bus services in London were privatised but not deregulated and are amongst the best in Europe. Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) have not made use of Quality Contracts that allow routes, service quality and fares to be decided by an authority if it can demonstrate that a Quality Contract is necessary for the success of local transport policies. The draft Bill would allow North Ayrshire to have greater control over the removal of any services and on how bus services are run.
- 2.6 No financial costings are available at this stage, but the responses approved by the Cabinet to Question 1 and 8 of the consultation rejects the proposed Bill on the basis of cost. The responses provided to the consultation will inform a Members' Bill proposal to be put before Parliament later in 2013 and a properly costed Bill would be prepared. Councils would then be in a position to consider the financial implication for reregulation of bus services.
- 2.7 Councillors Cullinane, McNamara and Montgomerie advised that the responses agreed by Cabinet to Question 2 - 7 of the consultation were not disputed. The responses to Questions 1 and 8 were disputed.
- 2.8 Councillor Hill was also present as a member of Cabinet. In response he advised that the draft Bill would have serious financial implications for the Scottish Government and the Council. The draft Bill is uncoded and as a result of the unknown financial position it is not possible to support the consultation. In addition he commented that it is the view of SPT that reregulation would be price prohibitive.
- 2.9 Councillor Gallagher, seconded by Councillor Munro moved that the Committee agree to recommend to the Cabinet that the Council's response to the consultation on a Proposed Member's Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill be as follows:-

Questions 2 - 7

The responses should read as those agreed by the Cabinet.

Question 1 - Do you support the general aim of the proposed Bill? Please indicate 'yes/no/undecided' and explain the reasons for your response.

The response should read - "Yes, whilst recognising that further work will have to be undertaken with our partners on the likely financial consequences and how the proposals can be economically delivered."

Question 8 - Do you have any other comments to suggestion that is relevant to the need for or detail of this Bill?

The response should read - "The Council does support the proposed Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill and acknowledges that further investigation will be required in relation to the likely financial implications".

- 2.10 There being no amendment, the motion was carried.
- 2.11 Accordingly, the Committee agreed to recommend to the Cabinet that the consultation response be amended in respect of Question 1 and 8 as detailed at 2.9.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to consider the recommendation from the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to amend the response to the consultation on a Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill in respect of Questions 1 and 8 as detailed at 2.9.
- 3.2 In the event the Cabinet declines to accept the recommendation of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee, the matter requires to be referred to the next meeting of the full Council for determination. The next meeting of Council is after the closing date for responses, and as decisions cannot be actioned while subject to call-in, this would result in the Council's eventual submission being lodged late.

4. Implications

- 4.1 The original report to the Cabinet on 27 August 2013 (Appendix A) and the subsequent report to the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee on 11 September 2013 (Appendix B) are appended and detail financial, human resource, legal, equality and environmental implications and implications for key priorities.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 Consultations that have taken place are detailed in Appendix A.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Cabinet requires to consider the view outlined by the parties in support of the Call In and the recommendation of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Elma Murray' in a cursive script.

ELMA MURRAY
Chief Executive

Reference :

For further information please contact Angela Little, Committee Services Officer on 01294 324132

Background Papers

None

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 3

27 August 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Consultation on a Proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill**

Purpose: To seek the approval of the Cabinet to submit the response attached at Appendix 1 to the consultation on a proposed Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees to approve the proposed consultation response, contained within Appendix 1, to be submitted on behalf of North Ayrshire Council prior to the consultation deadline of 30 August 2013.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This is a consultation on a draft Private Members' Bill by Iain Gray MSP on Bus Regulation. The aim of the Bill is to give Transport Authorities greater control over bus services in their area by enabling Authorities to regulate how they are delivered. If approved the Bill would allow Transport Authorities to group profitable and non-profitable routes and franchise them as a package, set a minimum level of service within the franchise, and use Local Authority fleets to provide socially useful services for any gaps in the service. The Bill would also include new powers for the Traffic Commissioner to impose financial penalties on operators who fail to meet the terms of the franchise, and provide scope for Transport Authorities to run services on how they see fit.
- 1.2 The consultation does not provide any information in respect of the financial implications of the Bill.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 In North Ayrshire, there is a higher dependence on public transport in comparison to the national average. 36.6% of the population does not own a car, 10.7% of the population live within our rural communities, and 26% of our population is found within the 15 most deprived data zones in Scotland. These factors point to the critical nature of the provision of local bus services in North Ayrshire.
- 2.2 Strathclyde Partnership for Transportation (SPT) is the Regional Transport Authority for North Ayrshire in relation to bus powers, with Member representation on the Board. SPT's role involves planning and delivering transport solutions for all modes of transport across the former Strathclyde region, in conjunction with member Councils and industry partners. SPT is at the centre of the region's transport planning; analysing all travel needs and developing the transport system for now and the future.
- 2.3 North Ayrshire Council operate a fleet of vehicles for internal Council use and do not directly provide a public bus service. As part of the Council's budget strategy the vehicle fleet has been and continues to be, rationalised ensuring optimum use of vehicles. Any direct provision by the Council would require a substantial financial investment. However the Council make a financial contribution to SPT which includes the provision of socially necessary supported services 'My Bus' and Community Transport within North Ayrshire.
- 2.4 Bus Operators currently register their services with one of seven Traffic Commissioners in the UK covering eight geographical areas with the Commissioner for Scotland being based in Edinburgh. The Traffic Commissioner is appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport under the Public Passengers Act 1981, and is the Licensing Authority for the bus and coach industry in Scotland and applies the regulatory regime. The Traffic Commissioner's responsibilities include the licensing of bus operators, the registration of local bus services and ensuring that operators keep their vehicles in a roadworthy condition.
- 2.5 The priorities of Traffic Commissioners include:-
 - Encouraging operators to adopt robust systems, ensuring fair competition and safe operation of goods and public service vehicles.

- Considering and imposing traffic regulation conditions to prevent anger to road users and / or reduce traffic congestion and / or pollution.
 - Engaging with stakeholders – listening to industry, meeting with Local Authorities, trade organisations, passenger groups and operators.
- 2.6 Within North Ayrshire, bus services provided through the unregulated market offer a substantial and wide level of bus service provision, with SPT subsidising non-profitable but necessary routes. Where the unregulated market partnerships fail, it is currently difficult to implement quality contracts between Transport Authorities and bus operators. The Transport Authority is required to demonstrate that the unregulated market failed and, under current legislation, this can be problematic.
- 2.7 At the meeting of North Ayrshire Council on 8 May 2013, following concern about the reduction or removal of bus services in Kilwinning and Ardrossan, the Council resolved "to (a) note the difficulties being experienced by North Ayrshire communities with the reduction or removal of bus service provision; (b) note that in terms of SPT's own Conditions of Contract "the Operator shall not make any change of any kind to the services without obtaining the prior approval of SPT"; and (c) resolve in the first instance to invite representatives of SPT to attend a special meeting of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to explain the position in respect of the reduction or withdrawal of service from North Ayrshire and to explore ways of ensuring that the views of the Council are obtained in future in respect of such changes prior to their implementation".
- 2.8 At the meeting of Scrutiny and Petitions Committee on 12 June 2013, representatives from SPT provided the Committee with a range of information in relation to bus services: 90% of bus services are commercial services and do not receive a subsidy; the Traffic Commissioner for Scotland requires to register local bus services and 10 weeks' notice is required for any changes or cancellation of services; and there are a range of factors that can result in services becoming marginal and being withdrawn, such as reductions in the level of operator's grant and in the level of reimbursement provided to operators for free travel.

- 2.9 SPT has prepared and submitted a 10 Point Plan to the Scottish Government, attached at Appendix 2. The Plan makes a number of recommendations, including an increase in the period when services can be changed from 90 to 180 days; the provision of operator cost and revenue figures to confirm a subsidy is required in areas where there is a monopoly; and the requirement for consultation when changes or cancellations of bus services are proposed. The Committee agreed that the Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill and 10 Point Plan be circulated to the Committee.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The proposed Bill aims to provide Transport Authorities with greater control over failing unregulated bus services in their area by enabling Authorities to regulate how these services are delivered through franchises.
- 3.2 Using these powers, Transport Authorities would be able to:-
- 'Bundle' profitable and non-profitable routes and franchise them as a package.
 - Set a minimum level of service within the franchise agreed with the operator.
 - Use Local Authority fleets to provide socially useful services where there are gaps in provision.
- 3.3 The proposed Bill would also introduce new powers for the Traffic Commissioner to impose financial penalties on operators who do not meet the terms of franchises. Transport Authorities will also be able to seek redress for the cost of re-tendering routes where operators have walked away from franchise agreements.
- 3.4 The financial implications associated with the proposals are unknown but are likely to be significant. It is difficult to provide a considered response without appropriate financial analysis.
- 3.5 The Cabinet is invited to approve the proposed consultation response, contained within Appendix 1, to be submitted on behalf of North Ayrshire Council prior to the consultation deadline of 30 August 2013.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There may be additional financial pressures imposed on North Ayrshire Council through an increased contribution required by SPT, arising from the grouping of profitable and non-profitable routes, and the use of Local Authority fleets to provide socially useful services where there are gaps in provision. Further clarification is required on these matters.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications for North Ayrshire Council associated with this proposal.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications associated with this proposal.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications associated with this proposal.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications associated with this proposal.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The implementation of this proposal contributes to the following Single Outcome Agreement outcomes:-

1a Transport links and services to and from North Ayrshire have improved.

7c Disadvantage on the basis of race, disability, gender, age, religious belief and sexual orientation is reduced.

14b The public sector's carbon footprint has reduced.

Community Benefit Implications

- 4.7 Improvements in public transport can alleviate transport poverty, making a positive economic impact on communities and addressing mobility problems for those in areas with poor transport links.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The consultation paper on the Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill is intended to seek views from a wide range of stakeholders, in order to best understand what changes people would like to see in bus services and how this might be possible. The responses will inform a Members' Bill proposal to be put before parliament later this year. No consultation has been carried out by North Ayrshire Council with the general public.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The consultation was launched in connection as the first stage in the process of introducing a Members' Bill in the Scottish Parliament. The consultation is currently going through the required minimum 12 week consultation with responses to be returned before 30 August 2013. This report provides North Ayrshire Council's proposed response to the eight questions contained within the consultation document and Members are asked to agree this response, which will be returned prior to the deadline on 30 August 2013.
- 6.2 Whilst the proposals within the Bill would strengthen the powers of Transport Authorities, further detail of the financial implications are required to provide a considered response in support of the Bill.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : JHM

For further information please contact James Miller, Senior Manager, Planning, Transportation and Regeneration on telephone number 01294 324315.

Background Papers

N/A

Consultation on a proposed Members' Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill

Question

- 1) Do you support the general aim of the proposed Bill? Please indicate 'yes/no/undecided' and explain the reasons for your response.

Answer

No, the proposed Bill cannot be supported at this time as further details are required on how the proposals can be economically delivered and there is a need for discussion with the operators on the implications of the proposed changes.

Question

- 2) What would be the main practical advantage of the legislation proposed? What would be the disadvantages?

Answer

Passing of the Bill would enable Transport Authorities to secure 'whole' routes that better reflect the travel patterns of their communities and allow operators to align commercial services to the network aspirations. However, the proposed franchises may be more costly to operators and the knock on effect may be increased fares as these costs are transferred to the customers or increased contribution from North Ayrshire Council.

Question

- 3) In what way do you envisage reregulation being used to improve bus services?

Answer

The Bill aims to give Transport Authorities greater power over how bus services are run, including a new power to tender contracts for profitable and non-profitable routes together without seeking ministers' consent or having to demonstrate market failure.

Question

- 4) How can community transport be better utilised to serve local communities and particularly low volume routes?

Answer

Community transport is playing a more and more important role in helping to ensure rural communities remain buoyant and sustainable. An improvement in the coordination of Community Transport provision will provide better utilisation of the resources available from the different providers. An increase in the funding of these services will provide services on low volume and 'door to door' routes where these cannot be met by regular public transport provision. The importance of community transport should not be understated and these groups provide a vital lifeline to many people in North Ayrshire.

Question

- 5) Do you agree that the Traffic Commissioner should be able to impose greater financial penalties on operators who a) fail to meet the terms of the franchise or b) walk away from the franchise altogether ?

Answer

North Ayrshire Council agrees that the Traffic Commissioner should be able to impose greater financial penalties on operators where franchise agreements are broken.

Question

- 6) What is your assessment of the likely financial implications of the proposed Bill to you or your organisation? What other significant financial implications are likely to arise?

Answer

Further details would be required to clarify the extent of any additional financial pressures that would be imposed on North Ayrshire Council as a result of the introduction of the new Bill. There may be a requirement to increase the current contribution made to SPT by North Ayrshire Council as a result of the increase in costs associated with the combining of profitable and non-profitable routes. In addition the proposed use of local authority fleets to provide socially useful services has not been costed.

Question

- 7) Is the proposed Bill likely to have any substantial positive or negative implications for equality? If it is likely to have a substantial negative implication, how might this be minimised or avoided?

Answer

The Bill would provide more accessible services to those isolated and without access to regular bus services. North Ayrshire has a high rural population and access to a regular bus service is important for the economic growth and improved equality for all bus users.

Question

- 8) Do you have any other comments or suggestion that is relevant to the need for or detail of this Bill?

Answer

North Ayrshire Council cannot support the proposed Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill at this time until further work has been carried out with our partners on the likely financial implications.



Proposals to seek variations to the existing regulatory provisions to improve the co-ordination and delivery of bus services

Committee Operations

Date of meeting 9 March 2012

Date of report 1 March 2012

Report by Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

1. Object of report

- 1.1 The object of this report is to seek approval for SPT's proposals to seek variations to the existing regulatory provisions to improve the co-ordination and delivery of bus services – attached at Appendix 1 – and their dissemination to the Scottish Government and other relevant organisations.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 10 February 2012, the Partnership approved a report entitled 'Competition Commission (CC) Inquiry into the Local Bus Market: Final Report and Next Steps for SPT'. The paper outlined the CC's decisions, their impact on SPT's work, and that officers would continue to develop SPT's proposals for an improved bus policy, including taking account of the CC's decisions.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 SPT has been liaising with council officers, other RTPs, the Confederation of Passenger Transport (CPT), operators, and other agencies, in addition to Transport Scotland, to promote SPT's views on bus. Furthermore, additional work has been undertaken to flesh out the actions required therein, taking account of market changes or other factors, including, for example, the CC's Inquiry.
- 3.2 The outcome of this further development can be summarised as follows:
 - To allow Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) – like SPT – to secure (or provide) bus services where there is clearly a need, even if it may be in conflict with the perceived commercial view of the operator.
 - The payment of Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) for new or varied registered mileage should only be made where that registration has been confirmed as not operating to the detriment of overall provision in that area.

- Public Transport Authorities should be given powers to require compulsory participation in ticketing schemes that they may introduce in their areas
- The modifications to provisions on Statutory Quality Partnerships introduced in England and Wales in the Local Transport Act 2008 should also be introduced in Scotland.
- The minimum period a service should operate as registered should be increased to 180 days. In addition, regulations should be made in accordance with S.46 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 restricting dates on which local services may be varied in local areas.
- Consideration should be given to compliance inspectors vehicle inspection engineers employed by PTAs who would be trained and certified to VOSA standards, being given relevant powers equivalent to VOSA officers.
- The Traffic Commissioner should consider not accepting local service registrations submitted by Community Transport groups (S. 22 permit holders) unless the registration is supported by the PTA and the group is registered on the Community Transport database. Additionally, a date should be set for the revocation of all existing Community Bus permits which may then be re-issued subject to application and compliance with minimum quality standards.
- Where a bus operator enjoys an effective monopoly and may be seeking subsidy from the PTA, the PTA should be given access to service cost and revenue figures to satisfy themselves that the operator is not seeking excessive subsidy costs or acting in an anti-competitive manner.
- Electronic Bus Service Registration (EBSR) to become the mandatory format for submitting bus registration particulars by 2014, and that such submissions are not accepted without the PTA acknowledging receipt of such information as prescribed in regulations.

3.3 SPT has invested significantly in providing high quality infrastructure to stimulate and improve the bus market and continues to do so. Our 5 year Capital Programme has included:

Projects	Cost £m
Bus station developments	£8.4
Bus Infrastructure (shelters, stops, roads and signals)	£19.6
Quality Bus Corridors	£4.8
Real Time Passenger Information	£3.0
New small fuel efficient buses	£5.3
Ticketing systems	£1.8
Public transport Interchanges	£4.3
Total	£47.2

Even with this investment and quality operators benefiting from SPT's commitment, to create the required 'step change' in the overall provision of the delivery of bus services requires changes to the existing regulatory regime as noted in the proposals.

3.4 These suggestions, if adopted, would positively impact across a range of themes, including:

- Providing a more consistent, passenger focused, integrated bus network
- Providing opportunity for PTAs to ensure best value for public money in securing subsidised services
- Creating a far more secure bus network
- Improved information for passengers, and a more efficient method of receiving that information, thus reducing cost to public purse
- Safer buses on the roads
- A stronger community input to the transport sector
- Better targeting of public funds where they are needed most
- A more attractive, seamless, convenient ticket offering for passengers
- A workable mechanism to achieve a higher quality bus network
- A more co-ordinated approach to network planning and development.

3.5 Most importantly, implementation of these suggestions would lead to significant improvements in the provision of bus services in communities across Scotland.

4. Committee action

4.1 The Committee is recommended to:

- Approve SPT's proposals for additional bus powers attached as Appendix 1 and their dissemination to the Scottish Government and other relevant organisations.

5. Consequences

Policy consequences	<i>In line with Regional Transport Strategy and SPT's Proposals for an Improved Bus Policy in Scotland.</i>
Legal consequences	<i>Implementation of some of these proposals would require changes to legislation.</i>
Financial consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Personnel consequences	<i>None at present.</i>
Social Inclusion consequences	<i>Implementation of these proposals could have a significant positive impact on communities across the SPT area.</i>

Risk Consequences

None identified at present.

Eric Stewart
Assistant Chief Executive (Operations)

Gordon MacLennan
Chief Executive

For further information, please contact Bruce Kiloh on ext 3740

Enc: Appendix 1 – 'Proposals for additional powers/regulations to assist Public Transport Authorities in securing an integrated, comprehensive bus network to better serve communities across Scotland'

Proposals for additional powers/regulations to assist Public Transport Authorities in securing an integrated, comprehensive bus network to better serve communities across Scotland.

- 1.) **To allow Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) – like SPT - to secure (or provide) bus services where there is clearly a need, even if it may be in conflict with the perceived commercial view of the operator.**

Current position:

- PTAs have powers to secure bus services they deem socially necessary to meet the needs of communities in their respective areas.
- Operators fundamentally structure their bus services to generate an operating margin, (i.e. they focus on the most profitable routes), meaning some communities are often bypassed by bus services if the operator feels they will not deliver a significant profit.
- Current legislation¹ limits PTAs to only provide those services which otherwise would not be commercially viable for a private operator, and where commercial services would not be unreasonably affected.
- This can lead to PTA's being reluctant to secure a service for fear of legal challenge on the grounds of interfering with the commercial market, and PTA-secured services being unattractive to users or potential contractors through having contrived, fragmented or circuitous routes, and restrictions imposed on them e.g. passenger eligibility.
- This current position may not be in best interests of passengers or communities and in reality serves to maximise profit and revenue for commercial operators.

Required action:

- ***Modify legislation so that PTAs simply have a power to secure those services they consider necessary to meet the requirements of their area.***
 - ***Modify Transport Act 1968 - S.9A(1) to read '....within their area' and delete S.9A (4)(a).***
 - ***Modify Transport Act 1985 - S.63 (2)(a) to read '...within their area' and delete S.63(5)(a).***

Benefits:

- PTAs able to design and secure 'whole' routes that better reflect the travel patterns of their communities.
- Commercial operators more likely to consider the consequences of their operations if, when maximising profit, they may precipitate the introduction of a subsidised competitor thereby reducing their income.
- Operators likely to more closely align commercial services to the network aspirations of PTAs.
- In addition, when bidding for any subsidised transport element additional to a commercial service, the possibility of competition over the whole route would moderate bids by the incumbent.

- 2.) **The payment of Bus Service Operators Grant (BSOG) for new or varied registered mileage should only be made where that registration has been confirmed as not operating to the detriment of overall provision in that area.**

¹ S.9A of the Transport Act 1968 and S.63 of the Transport Act 1985,

Current position:

- Currently, BSOG is paid to all operators of registered local bus services, irrespective of the value that each service may provide to the passenger. As a result, the BSOG 'subsidy' can, in some cases, contribute towards wasteful or predatory services that may also, in the longer term, affect the viability of other services and incur additional public subsidy.
- Examples include the registration of duplicated journeys several minutes ahead of a competitor, rather than splitting headways, the registration of journeys only at profitable times abstracting from a more comprehensive provision, and registering journeys over subsidised services in the short-term to potentially and allegedly 'game' the award of contracts.
- Such tactics are legal, but in a time of severe economic restraint it is considered that efforts should be made to target public subsidy more effectively.

Required action:

Each bus registration should be evaluated by the relevant PTA to consider whether it would stimulate passenger growth or whether it is merely a predatory registration to abstract passengers from a previously registered bus route, and in particular with regard to the timing of bus provision on the route. BSOG should not be paid for mileage that brings no public benefit or does not stimulate the bus market in a sustainable way.

Benefits:

- The positive impacts of this action for passengers would be a more effective, integrated and complementary provision of bus services in their area.
- The withholding of BSOG for other than beneficial service provision to passengers would discourage bus operators from indulging in 'wasteful' competition.
- When combined with the suggestion that registrations operate for a minimum 180 days, the measures would be a significant disincentive to predatory behaviour.
- Additionally, the BSOG subsidy would be targeted to maximise benefit to the passenger, rather than the operator.

3) Public Transport Authorities should be given powers to require compulsory participation in ticketing schemes that are introduced in their areas

Current position

- Whilst PTAs currently have power to introduce Ticketing Schemes they can only do so following the failure of operators to introduce Ticketing Arrangements
- Any Ticketing Scheme or Arrangement can be frustrated by bus operators who may determine the price of the ticket and apply a high premium, rendering the ticket uneconomic to the user.
- Operators of registered local bus services are currently required to participate in the National Concessionary Travel Scheme ticketing arrangements.

Required Action:

- ***Adopt the recent remedy recommendations for multi-operator tickets of the Competition Commission's investigation into the bus market.***

Benefits:

- Attractive integrated ticketing for the passenger stimulating growth.

- This action would address the anti-competitive aspects of dominant operators.
- It would reduce the perceived fragmentation of bus services in some communities, providing more seamless, attractive, convenient ticketing arrangements.

4) The modifications to provisions on Statutory Quality Partnerships introduced in England and Wales in the Local Transport Act 2008 should also be introduced in Scotland.

Current position

- S. 3 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 limited the ability of PTAs to prescribe the operation of services in an SQP.
- The process of introducing an SQP is protracted.
- The PTA requires to invest significant capital monies prior to the introduction of any SQP when the outcomes of the mechanism are uncertain.
- There is no significant sanction to ensure compliance

Required Action:

- ***Provisions of Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 should be relaxed to permit the specification of maximum frequencies/timings in SQPs as per Local Transport Act 2008***
- ***PTAs should be permitted to define 'registration criteria' to prevent the provision, variation or withdrawal of services in an SQP area. The Traffic Commissioner would determine whether to accept specific registrations/variations/cancellations by reference to these criteria***
- ***Consideration should be given to fines or reduction in BSOG for non-compliance with SQP undertakings***
- ***Consideration should be given to the establishment of an adjudicator, or board, to consider admissible objections to the making of an SQP. This would reduce the likelihood and costs of delays associated with operators seeking to frustrate the introduction of an SQP to which they are unable or unwilling to commit***

Benefits:

- A higher quality bus offering for passengers across communities where SQPs are implemented
- SQPs would become easier to implement
- PTAs would be encouraged to introduce SQPs as outcomes are more assured.

5.) The minimum period a service should operate as registered should be increased to 180 days. In addition, regulations should be made in accordance with S.46 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 restricting dates on which local services may be varied in local areas.

Current position:

- In Scotland, a bus service must operate, as registered, for a minimum period of 90 days².
- Operators can introduce, vary or withdraw registrations at any time, subject to minimal notice requirements.
- Operators often seek to modify registrations simply to gain a temporary advantage over a competitor.
- This can lead to excessive change in bus service provision creating consumer confusion and loss of confidence in network stability.

² This condition, in addition to the 70-day notice requirement, contributed to the reduction in service changes in the SPT area from 1300 per year to around 900.

- Railways, express buses and ferry companies generally adhere to two timetable changes per year at recognised times.

Required action:

- ***Amend time period for which a service is required to operate from 90 days to 180 days.***
 - ***S.45 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001 to be amended and regulations under S. 46 of to be made to restrict the dates on which services may be varied to no more than 4 dates a year.***
- ***Acknowledging that there are often unforeseeable circumstances which require a quick change, there should be an added requirement that application to the Traffic Commissioner to register, vary or withdraw services at short notice must be accompanied by support from the public transport authority.***
 - ***Amend S. 6(2) of the Transport Act 1985 to reflect this requirement.***

Benefits:

- The above actions would yield significant benefits for customers. Greater network stability, improved reliability of service for customers, and more consistent information, with a longer 'shelf life.
- A reduction in the ability of bus operators to introduce short-term modifications to services to deter competition through over-bussing or head-running.
- A reduction in cost to the public purse through less network changes or requests for subsidy for withdrawn or varied services.

6.) Consideration should be given to compliance inspectors/ vehicle inspection engineers employed by PTAs who would be trained and certified to VOSA standards, being given relevant powers equivalent to VOSA officers.

Current position:

- SPT currently employs vehicle inspection engineers and compliance inspectors to monitor the quality and operation of vehicles and services provided by bus operators under contract to SPT. This monitoring is undertaken primarily to protect the safety of passengers and other road users and ensure legal compliance.
- In addition, compliance officers note the operation of all local services and advise the Traffic Commissioner of observed breaches in relevant regulations, in accordance with an agreed protocol.
- Whilst carrying out monitoring, staff are often able to identify deficiencies in service operation with potentially serious implications and whilst prohibitions can be issued to operators and against vehicles contracted to SPT, they are unable to take any action with regard to the commercial services providing the majority of the bus network.
- Currently such inspectors are only able to advise the operator and vehicle inspectorate of potentially dangerous situations.
- It is suggested that, subject to training and accreditation, Inspectors employed by PTAs be given powers to inspect and prohibit vehicles commensurate with those of VOSA.

Required action:

- ***A training and certification scheme for inspectors and engineers employed by PTAs such as SPT to be established such that actions taken by them and evidence submitted to the Traffic Commissioner is deemed compliant with regulations and requirements. Legislation may be required to legally empower officers.***

Benefits:

- The primary benefits of this action would be safer vehicles on the roads for use by the travelling public, and a more effective reporting regime.
- Empowering inspectors employed by PTAs such as SPT would significantly increase the resources currently deployed on ensuring the safety and legality of bus operations in Scotland thereby maximising the effectiveness of the work of the Traffic Commissioner, who only has a small number of staff dedicated to this task at the current time.
- These additional monitoring resources will encourage bus operators to be more aware of, and adhere to, the legal and safety requirements of bus operation in Scotland.
- Currently, when operators are called to public inquiry by the Traffic Commissioner, the Commissioner may call on evidence provided by SPT staff. Much time and effort is taken up at enquiries proving the competence and jurisdiction of inspectors or engineers employed by SPT, whilst such issues are seldom raised with regard to VOSA inspectors. By certifying and empowering the PTA inspectors the business of any public enquiry can be expedited more efficiently

- 7.) The Traffic Commissioner should consider not accepting local service registrations submitted by Community Transport groups (S. 22 permit holders) unless the registration is supported by the PTA and the group is registered on the Community Transport database. Additionally, a date should be set for the revocation of all existing Community Bus permits which may then be re-issued subject to application and compliance with minimum quality standards.**

Current position:

- Recent decisions offering BSOG to services operated by Community Transport groups and changes in powers of Community Transport Providers under the Local Transport Act 2008 (payment to drivers) are likely to encourage Community Transport groups to register and operate local bus services.
- Such measures are broadly welcome, especially in more remote areas where conventional bus services are likely to be uneconomic, but concerns exist over the governance and technical proficiency of some groups and the possibility that some registrations may affect the viability of mainstream marginal bus services, leading to their withdrawal.
- Operating costs of Community transport, along with overheads are invariably lower than conventional bus services. The maintenance regimes and vehicle standards are less onerous than those expected from the holders of PSV operators licences and often grants towards the purchase of vehicles by councils or other bodies has helped defer costs.
- Historically, S. 22 permits have been granted without time limit to groups that may have changed significantly in governance, personnel and ability since the grant. Regulations under the Local Transport Act 2008 imposes a duty on Traffic Commissioners to maintain a database of permits granted and limits the duration of new permits to 5 years.
- This enables a periodic quality check to be carried out and therefore will go some way to addressing concerns over quality. Existing permits should be revoked from a given date and re-issued where appropriate, ensuring existing permit-holders are also suitably qualified.

Required action:

Most of the necessary legislation for this proposal is in place. Regulations requiring the Traffic Commissioner to maintain records of permits issued and the time-limited nature of these new permits have already been made. A further regulation does, however, require to be made identifying a date when all previous permits should be revoked. Holders of these permits would then be required to re-apply for time-limited permits.

SPT would be willing, on behalf of the Traffic Commissioner for Scotland, to establish and maintain the database of all S.19 and S. 22 permits issued.

Benefits:

- The principal benefit in this proposal is in raising the quality and safety of community transport provision through the establishment of minimum acceptable standards for community transport, and regular review and monitoring of the proficiency of groups seeking to provide such services.
- PTAs, like SPT, see community transport providers as an essential part of the future of public transport provision, especially in times of financial constraint, and improved standards will encourage PTAs to partner these providers in improving services in their areas, further stimulating the community transport market.
- The requirement for the Traffic Commissioner to maintain a database of permits issued will assist in the monitoring of the sector, and the revocation of existing permits would necessitate their renewal providing a complete database of all groups.
- The increasing likelihood of community transport registering local services does, however, raise concerns that they may in some circumstances compete with mainstream provision. Thus, requiring all S. 22 permit holders to have applications to register services endorsed by the PTA, should reduce such conflicts.

8.) Where a bus operator enjoys an effective monopoly and may be seeking subsidy from the PTA, the PTA should be given access to service cost and revenue figures to satisfy themselves that the operator is not seeking excessive subsidy costs or acting in an anti-competitive manner.

Current position:

- Bus operators enjoy an effective monopoly in many areas of Scotland. Such monopolies can often result in alleged 'gaming' by companies, which could be perceived as being simply to extract further monies for profit from PTAs on contracted routes.
- This can result in operator's undertaking market manipulation, service reduction or variation (and subsequent request for public subsidy to replace), high fares, reduced frequencies, and predatory behaviour against other operators
- The PTAs only method of addressing this is through service subsidy or the introduction of a Quality Contract (QC), which, to date, not one PTA has introduced due to the complexity involved.

Required action:

- ***Where an operator enjoys an effective monopoly (for example, over 75% of market in an area), and the PTA considers that this could result in excessive subsidy from the public purse, the operator should be placed under a duty to detail costs, income and profit margins of relevant contracting depots.***
- ***This 'open book' approach would permit an assessment of whether the operator is abusing a monopoly position and whether action to address this is warranted.***
- ***The PTAs request for information would be subject to approval from an arbitrator e.g. Traffic Commissioner or Scottish Ministers.***
- ***Any information supplied to PTAs under this proposal would remain confidential and subject to similar conditions detailed in S.43 of the Transport (Scotland) Act 2001.***

Benefits:

- PTAs would be better informed about operation, income and therefore subsidy requirements of services in their communities, assisting the assessment of potential remedial measures.
- Operators would be less inclined to seek higher subsidy for providing a PTA-secured service enabling better use of PTA's limited financial resources to provide further vital services for communities across its area.

9.) Electronic Bus Service Registration (EBSR) to become the mandatory format for submitting bus registration particulars by 2014, and that such submissions are not accepted without the PTA acknowledging receipt of such information as prescribed in regulations.

Current position:

- Current system for receiving and processing registrations allows operators to submit completed registration forms in 2 formats: paper-based documents or an electronic copy, meaning separate processing regimes with consequent costs.
- This 'double' processing regime can lead to confusion, 'grey areas' and additional costs for the PTA and the Traffic Commissioner, all in all potentially resulting in poorer information being provided to the customer.

Required action:

- ***The Traffic Commissioner would require to advise operators that applications for registration, variation or cancellation of local service details should be submitted in the EBSR format from a given date e.g. 2014.***
- ***No submission should be accepted by the Traffic Commissioner unless it has been formally receipted by the PTA in accordance with the prescribed timescales.***

Benefits:

- By requiring that all registrations, variations and cancellations are submitted through EBSR, significant savings could be made in resources required to process and record the information
- Furthermore, this will create a more robust, resilient, auditable system of service registrations with a clear, electronic information record.
- This would result in an immediately accessible, comprehensive database of services to assist planning and emergency services.
- Lastly, but most importantly, there would be huge benefits for the travelling public through the provision of up-to-date information.

10) The Public Service Vehicles (Registration of Local Services)(Scotland) Regulations 2001 should be amended such that the duty to inform the relevant authority(ies) of an application to register, vary or withdraw a bus service is replaced by a duty to consult.

Current position:

- In Scotland bus operators are required to inform Public Transport Authorities of their applications to change or introduce bus services 14 days before the application is submitted to the Traffic Commissioner.
- Following initial uncertainty the Traffic Commissioner has determined that the information submitted to the PTAs must be a copy of the completed registration particulars.
- The period between submitting information to the PTA and submitting the registration documents to the Traffic Commissioner enables the Authority to identify any faults in the documents and advise the operator of the failings. It does not permit the Authority to enter meaningful discussions on the proposals.

Required action:

S.4(1) of the regulations should be amended such that the word 'consult' replaces the word 'inform'.

Benefits:

- A statutory two-way dialogue in the period before a registration is submitted will enable the PTA to advise the operator of the likely result of the proposed service changes, the response, if any, of the PTA and, as at present, any technical faults within the document.
- The operator's knowledge of the response of the PTA may influence the final proposals avoiding the requirement to tender services, the submission of successive registration documents and excessive disruption to the passenger.
- If the proposal above in relation to payment of BSOG is adopted, this consultation will advise the operator whether the registration is supported by the PTA in benefiting and sustaining the bus market.
- Overall, this proposal will ensure that a more co-ordinated approach to network planning and development is place, which is to the significant benefit of passengers and communities.
- The current method of 'informing' implies acceptance of the proposed changes. In many cases this is not the case. Consultation strengthens the requirement for dialogue, perhaps leading to moderation, and emphasises the PTAs role in endeavouring to secure satisfactory overall provision.
- The process of consultation requires some explanation of the rationale behind the proposals. By understanding this rationale the PTA is better able to either assist an operator, or consider any appropriate response.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 2

11 September 2013

Scrutiny and Petitions Committee

Subject:	Call In: Consultation on Proposed Members Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill
Purpose:	To allow the Committee to consider a Call In Request in respect of the decision taken by the Cabinet at its meeting on 27 August 2013 relating to the consultation response on a proposed Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill.
Recommendation:	The Committee is invited to consider the Call In Request.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting on 27 August 2013, the Cabinet received a report by the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) on the prepared response to the consultation on a proposed Bus Regulation (Scotland) Bill. The proposed consultation response to be submitted on behalf of North Ayrshire Council was appended at Appendix 1 to the report.
- 1.2 The Cabinet agreed to approve the proposed consultation response, to be submitted on behalf of North Ayrshire Council prior to the consultation deadline of 30 August 2013. The deadline for submission of responses was subsequently extended to 11 October 2013 and the Council's response has not yet been submitted.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 A request has been received in terms of the Call In procedure set out in the Council's Scheme of Administration and Standing Orders, that the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee examine the decision taken by the Cabinet as set out in paragraph 1.2 above.
- 2.2 The request was signed by Councillors Cullinane, McNamara and Montgomerie in the following terms:-

"The consultation response outlines a number of ways in which the Bill will benefit the people of North Ayrshire however concludes that on the grounds of potential costs to the council and bus operators we should oppose it. The consultation document outlines key questions one of which deals with the impact the bill may have on your organisation. Issues surrounding cost, which should be dealt with in the drafting of the legislation which will take place after the consultation, should be dealt with under this question. Cost concerns are not a primary reason for rejecting the principles of the bill and not supporting it. We agree with much of the response which does not reflect the conclusion".

The desired outcome specified by Councillors Cullinane, McNamara and Montgomerie is as follows:-

"That the committee consider the conclusion reached in the councils response and recommend support for the bill whilst noting cost concerns within the appropriate section (key question)".

- 2.3 A copy of the original report and appendices presented to the Cabinet on 27 August 2013 is appended to this report.
- 2.4 The Call In request is valid for consideration by the Committee. The request was received within the appropriate timescale, it was signed by three Elected Members and details were provided on both the reason for the Call In and the desired outcome.
- 2.5 The Elected Members who have submitted the Call In will be invited to address the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee to explain the Call In request. The appropriate Cabinet member accompanied by senior officers will then be invited to clarify the reasons for the decision. The Committee will have an opportunity to ask questions of both parties and of those officers in attendance.
- 2.6 The Committee will then debate the Call In request and decide whether or not it agrees with the decision of the Cabinet.
- 2.7 Where the Committee does not agree with the decision of the Cabinet, the matter will be referred to the next meeting of the Cabinet with recommendations from the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee for alternative action. The Scrutiny and Petitions Committee therefore has to:-
 - i) decide if it agrees or not with the decisions of the Cabinet; and
 - ii) consider what alternative action the Committee would recommend to the Cabinet if it does not agree with the decision.

2.8 When the matter is consider by the Cabinet the Chairperson or another member of the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee will have the right to attend the Cabinet and speak in support of any recommendation.

2.9 In the event the Cabinet declines to accept the recommendation from the Scrutiny and Petitions Committee the matter will be referred to the next meeting of the Council for determination. The decision of the Council will be final.

3. Proposals

3.1 The Committee is invited to consider whether it wishes to examine the decision of the Cabinet in relation to this matter.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

4.1 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Human Resource Implications

4.2 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

4.3 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Equality Implications

4.4 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications

4.5 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

Implications for Key Priorities

4.6 There are no direct implications arising from this report.

5. Consultations

5.1 No further consultation has been undertaken in compiling this report. The consultation undertaken in the preparation of the report to the Cabinet of 27 August 2013 is set out in Appendix 1.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Scrutiny and Petitions Committee is invited to consider the Call In Request.



ELMA MURRAY
Chief Executive

Reference :

For further information please contact Angela Little, Committee Services Officer on 01294 324132

Background Papers

Report to Cabinet - 27 August 2013
Appendices 1 and 2 to the report

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 5

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Regional Aid and the Assisted Areas Map 2014-20**

Purpose: To consider changes to Regional Aid Guidelines 2014-20 and to agree a response to a UK Government consultation on the Assisted Area Map 2014-20.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet (a) notes changes to Regional Aid Guidelines 2014-20; and (b) approves a North Ayrshire Council response to the UK Government consultation on the 2014-20 Assisted Area map based on the map attached at Appendix to this report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In Scotland, the key form of regional state aid is Regional Selective Assistance (RSA). Governed by European Community law, this allows public money to be used to support capital investment by Scottish, UK and overseas-owned businesses to create or safeguard jobs within areas designated for assistance.
- 1.2 The 2007-13 Regional Aid rules and Assisted Area map, which shows where regional aid may be granted, will expire on 30 June 2014. The UK government has issued a first stage consultation paper on its proposals for developing the new map. The deadline for responding is 30 September 2013.
- 1.3 The level of detail and analysis required means that responses are primarily sought from Local Authorities, Enterprise Agencies and (in England) Local Enterprise Partnerships.
- 1.4 It should be noted that this consultation does not relate to other forms of state aid such as aid for R&D, risk capital, SME investments, training or environmental protection. These are subject to separate regulatory frameworks.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 North Ayrshire successfully secured a high level of coverage on the 2007-13 Assisted Area map. In 2007 Arran and Cumbrae acquired Tier 1 status (where a higher rate of financial assistance is permissible) and 22 of the old single-member electoral wards on North Ayrshire's mainland were given Tier 2 status.
- 2.2 In the ten years to March 2013, North Ayrshire businesses were offered almost £43 million worth of RSA to create or safeguard around four thousand jobs. Given the importance of this aid to North Ayrshire's economy, over the past year, the Council has engaged in coordinated influencing activity alongside partners in the Industrial Communities Alliance to ensure that the new regulatory framework would continue to bring benefit to the UK's industrial areas. One of the key aims was to counter a European Commission proposal to outlaw regional aid to large firms outwith the very poorest regions of the EU.
- 2.3 The Regional Aid Guidelines for 2014-20 were adopted by the European Commission in June. In these, the Commission conceded that aid to large firms could continue in tier 2 areas, though this will be restricted to support for "initial investments that create new economic activities in these areas, or for the diversification of existing establishments into new products or new process innovations".
- 2.4 The new rules reduced the level of public financial support a company can receive. In North Ayrshire, the aid ceiling in Assisted Areas will range from 10% to large firms, to 35% for smaller companies on Arran and Cumbrae.
- 2.5 The guidelines also set the framework for the new Assisted Area map. There will be no more Tier 1 coverage in Scotland in 2014-20. Tier 2 coverage will comprise two elements: 'predefined' areas and 'non-predefined' areas. Arran and Cumbrae – along with Argyll & Bute, Lochaber, Skye & Lochalsh and the Western Isles – have been 'predefined' by the Commission for inclusion on the new map due to low population density.
- 2.6 For the rest of Scotland (excluding Edinburgh, Aberdeen/shire and West Lothian which do not meet the eligibility criteria), the selection of Tier 2 areas will be undertaken by national authorities based on parameters set by the Commission. The map will again be constructed from the old single-member electoral wards whose boundaries were frozen in 2006. As the Commission has set a minimum population size for an Assisted Area Zone, the process of map drawing requires cross boundary collaboration amongst local authorities.

- 2.7 As this is a reserved and not a devolved matter, it is the UK Government's Department for Business, Innovation & Skills (BIS) who is leading on this process. It is carrying out a two stage consultation. The first stage considers the principles and types of information that will be used to determine the new map. It also seeks proposals on areas for inclusion based both on evidence of need and the identification of areas where regional aid will be used to best effect.
- 2.8 A key aspect of this exercise is a request being put by government to lead consultees to identify 80% (by population) of their current Assisted Area coverage which they would prioritise for inclusion on the new map. They are then asked to add a further 20% to make up 100% coverage. Identifying this 20% does not mean that it will automatically be removed from the map, however the government has indicated it wishes to explore the potential for extending coverage to new areas. If Local Authorities refuse to prioritise their proposals, there is a risk is that government could respond by imposing its own cuts in local coverage.
- 2.9 The second stage of the consultation, in late 2013/early 2014, will offer stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the proposed draft map before it is submitted to the European Commission. It is expected that the final map will be adopted by Spring 2014.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 Regional state aid is likely to play an important role in achieving the objectives of North Ayrshire's Business growth strategy and key business growth priorities by:
- Attracting inward investment;
 - Growing existing business.
- 3.2 In order to maximise benefit to the local economy, the new Assisted Area map should include local economic development and regeneration sites where there are strong opportunities to attract inward investment. Sites identified in the North Ayrshire Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy are:
- Irvine Enterprise Area;
 - Hunterston;
 - Ardeer Peninsula;
 - Garnock Valley.
- 3.3 It is also important that the Assisted Area map covers the location of local companies which have significant potential to grow their business. Over 150 such businesses have been identified and are being supported by the Council and by the Enterprise agencies. These will form the North Ayrshire account managed programme.

- 3.4 Attached as Appendix 1 is a map which covers the above priorities. Six proposed account managed companies lie in areas not being put forward for inclusion in the map. They are in areas which are not on the current Assisted Area map (Eglinton & Lawthorn; Largs West & Cumbrae) and where Regional State Aid is, or would be less likely to play a significant role in their growth plans for 2014-20.
- 3.5 The population figure for the identified areas is marginally above the figure which BIS has asked North Ayrshire to identify. This problem has arisen as a result of the European Commission's requirement for wards to be contiguous, ie to adjoin, and for there to be no holes in the map. This problem has been highlighted to government officials who are now raising the issue with the Commission. Further dialogue on the detail of proposed map coverage in North Ayrshire will be sought with government once the outcome of this debate is known.
- 3.6 The Cabinet is invited to (a) note changes to Regional Aid Guidelines 2014-20; and (b) approve a North Ayrshire Council response to the UK Government consultation on the 2014-20 Assisted Area map based on the map attached at Appendix to this report.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 It is not possible to put a figure on the financial impact of the proposals however, as indicated above, the benefit local business has derived from regional state aid has been significant.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications arising from the recommendation for the report.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications arising from the recommendation for the report.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications arising from the recommendation for the report.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications arising from the recommendation for the report.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 Regional Aid Guidelines and the Assisted Area map for 2014-20 will govern where, and to what extent, public money can be given to companies to support business investment which creates or safeguards jobs. The outcome of this consultation is therefore likely to impact on the potential to achieve SOA objectives of attracting high-level activities and jobs to North Ayrshire and of increasing the number of job opportunities locally.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The opportunity for local consultation has been constrained by government in order to meet the timeframe set by the European Commission. Development Planning staff have engaged in meetings with Irvine Bay Regeneration Company (IBRC) and key Council officials to gather material for the North Ayrshire Council response. In addition Scottish Government held a workshop in Irvine on 27 August 2013 in which IBRC and all Ayrshire Councils participated.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Regional Aid has brought significant investment to North Ayrshire's economy in the past. To secure this for the future it is important that the Assisted Area Map 2014-20 reflects local strategic priorities and includes our key strategic investment sites and businesses.
- 6.2 It is recommended that North Ayrshire Council's response to the UK Government consultation on the new map is based on the Appendix appended to this report, with authority to include relevant supporting documentation delegated to the Corporate Director (Development and Environment).



CRAIG HATTON

Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

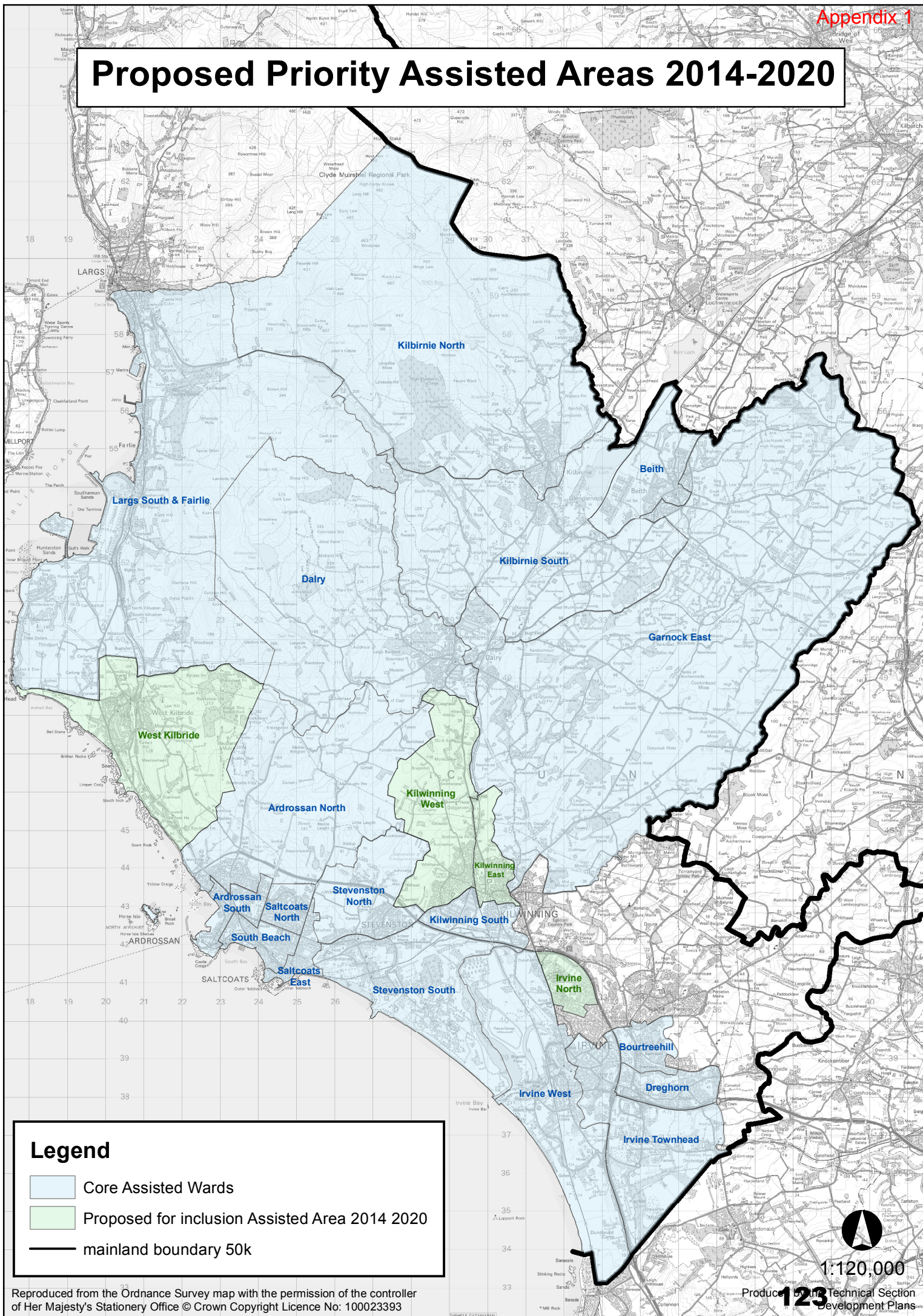
Reference : LA

For further information please contact Linda Aird, European Officer on telephone number 01294 225195

Background Papers

2014-2020 Assisted Area Map Consultation Stage 1: Common Principles and Local Intelligence (UK Government 31 July 2013)

Proposed Priority Assisted Areas 2014-2020



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 6

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study - Action Programme**

Purpose: To inform the Cabinet of the preparation of an Action Programme associated with the production of the Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet approves the content of the Action Programme and the associated actions for North Ayrshire Council and partners.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study (HCAS) was commissioned to establish the potential for employment opportunities being developed on the sit, having regard to commercial viability, the infrastructure existing and required, means of raising the site's profile and an action programme for leadership and stakeholder delivery. The study was undertaken by URS Infrastructure and Environment UK Ltd and completed in August 2013. Members received a number of presentations on its emerging content during the preparation of the study.
- 1.2 The first major outcome of the HCAS was the consideration of a response to the consultation on National Planning Framework 3 at the Local Development Plan (LDP) Committee on 28 August 2013. The LDP Committee agreed to seek the designation of a National Development designation for Hunterston as an 'Energy Hub', and to the uses which this should contain.
- 1.3 The second major outcome of the study is the associated Action Programme which will direct the activity of the Council and partners in pursuing the delivery of employment generating uses on the site.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 Confirmation of the Council's preferred planning designation for Hunterston should be seen as only the start of an concerted pursuit of employment uses by the Council and partners and it is, therefore, important that an action programme is associated with the site. There is a need to consider the wider implications of and actions arising from the HCAS in delivering operator interest and ultimately employment on the site.

- 2.2 The action programme associated with NPF2 only reported on progress in relation to the Hunterston National Development and, as of September 2013, it only reports on the submission and later withdrawal of the application for a Clean Coal Power Station by Ayrshire Power Ltd, and the approval by North Ayrshire Council of consent for an offshore wind turbine testing site. It did not compel public sector authorities or landowners to implement forward looking actions, nor did it establish a relationship between identified national developments, and the funding made available by the Government or the priorities of Government Agencies.
- 2.3 It is considered that, to encourage employment generating uses at Hunterston, a stakeholder action programme should recognise:
- The need for improved branding/marketing of the site;
 - The need to support a National Development at Hunterston with infrastructure improvements, in particular the A78/A737 and improved capacity on the railway network;
 - A clearer link between the designated National Developments, and funding support available through, for example, the National Renewables Infrastructure Fund and the use of mechanisms such as Tax Incremental Finance; and
 - The involvement expected of landowners, Scottish Government and its agencies such as Transport Scotland, Scottish Enterprise and Scottish Development International, and the local authority, along with timescales for action.
- 2.4 It is proposed that the action programme should be developed regardless of whether the Scottish Government accepts the case for a National Development at Hunterston, although such a designation would, of course, assist with maintaining the profile of the site and the support expressed for it by potential funders, Government agencies, etc.
- 2.5 A draft Action Programme developed as part of the Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study is attached at Appendix 1 for consideration. As well as the recent submission of a response to the Scottish Government on NPF3, initial actions include liaison with Clydeport to examine the potential for an agreement on shared goals and joint working on the promotion of the site, and further articulation of the type of on and off site infrastructure improvements required and the financial case for these.
- 2.6 The Action Programme should be seen as an initial programme of activity to be further developed with the partners involved. It will be the subject of future reviews and updates on progress.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Cabinet approves the Action Programme contained at Appendix 1 and the associated actions for North Ayrshire Council and partners.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications at this stage. There are likely to be financial implications associated with the marketing or promotion of the site, and in the longer term other actions contained in the action programme. Any financial implications when confirmed would be reported to Cabinet.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications at this stage. Any actions resulting in environmental implications would be subject to the relevant means of assessment and considered in terms of other policies including Scottish Planning Policy and the proposed North Ayrshire Local Development Plan.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The Council's Core Objective 1: Regenerating our communities and increasing employment is supported.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 A variety of stakeholders was engaged in the production of the HCAS. These included landowners, Community Councils, Clydeport Scottish Enterprise, and Scottish Development International. The views expressed were considered by the lead consultant for the HCAS, and were reflected in the study where appropriate.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study has identified several potential energy related future uses for the site that are viable medium to longer term opportunities and which may secure significant new employment creation. In seeking to deliver this the Council may play a key role alongside the major landowner Clydeport and Government Agencies. The Action Programme articulates how this may be pursued by the Council and its partners.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference :

For further information please contact Alasdair Laurenson, Team Leader,
Planning on telephone number 01294 324758

Background Papers

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Action	What?	When?	Who?	
			Lead	Support
Planning Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation responding to NPF3 consultation draft seeking designation of a National Development based on the findings of the HCAS. To be considered by Scottish Parliament in 2014. Examination of LDP by SG and adoption by NAC. 	August 2013	NAC	SG
		Early 2014	NAC	SG
Development partner / facilitator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss public sector role / support with Clydeport and others. Statement of shared goals and plan for joint working. 	Sep – Dec 2013	NAC, IBRC	
Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop brand, market offer and targeted marketing programme. Co-ordinated strategy on presenting opportunities to potential occupiers including articulation of potential uses, supporting infrastructure requirements and means of delivery based on Clydeport/NAC joint working and funding support available. Promotion of site as an Energy Hub for the uses emerging from the Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study and agreed by NAC August 2013. Incorporate Hunterston within the wider economic development strategies for the area. Facilitate strengthened links between landowners and public sector partners. 	2014	NAC, IBRC	SDI ¹ , SE ²
Infrastructure investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare proposals and secure funding, eg ERDF, NRIP, direct NAC funding (subject to State Aid rules and financial commitment by Clydeport / others). Investigate the business case for loans and forward-funding mechanisms eg Tax Incremental Finance. Consider links between any planned investment at Hunterston and local road improvements. Further articulate the case for improvements to the B714, A78 and A737 and means of funding/delivery. 	2014/15	NAC, IBRC, SE	Transport Scotland, SDI

¹ Scottish Development International

² Scottish Enterprise

Action	What?	When?	Who?	
			Lead	Support
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate further development of energy skills training. Investigate skills and supply chain requirements of renewable energy sector (once there is a committed user). Work with existing providers to identify fit with existing programmes and institutions. Investigate links with new partners, eg Strathclyde University and the University of Glasgow, private sector, public sector agencies. In due course and if there is demand, play a role in new programmes and facilities eg skills academy at Hunterston. 	2014 onwards (tbc)	NAC, IBRC, NDA, EDF	SE, FE/HE providers, Skills Development Scotland, Job Centre Plus
Business Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote opportunities for local businesses and inward investors when new uses at Hunterston come forward (eg locating premises, provision of marketing / networking opportunities). 	2015 onwards	NAC, IBRC	
Stakeholder engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate communication between landowners, local residents and local businesses to promote continuing stakeholder involvement and buy-in. Provide annual updates on Action Programme to NAC Cabinet. 	On-going	NAC, IBRC	

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 7

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Implementation of North Ayrshire's Waste Management Strategy 2012 - 2016**

Purpose: To update Cabinet on the implementation of the Council's Waste Strategy.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet:

- a. notes the proposal to introduce new commercial waste collection services for businesses, including a new food waste collection service;
 - b. approves the new food waste collection service charge for businesses and agrees that the charge be reviewed annually in line with the Council's fees and charges policy;
 - c. approves the revised waste collection policy.
-

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At its meeting of 10 April 2012, the former Executive agreed a Waste Management Strategy for North Ayrshire for the period 2012 to 2016. The strategy contains a number of key actions for the development of waste management services to meet the targets and objectives of the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan.
- 1.2 Contained within the strategy, is an action to improve and introduce new waste collection services for businesses.
- 1.3 In order to support recent changes to waste collection services and the introduction of new commercial waste collection services, an updated waste collection policy has been drafted which is attached at Appendix 1.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The Council provides a range of waste management and recycling services to householders and businesses. These consist of the following:

2.1.1 Domestic collection service consisting of:-

- An alternate weekly collection of residual waste (grey bin) and co-mingled dry recyclables (blue bin);
- An all year round weekly collection of organic garden and food waste (brown bin) - excluding Arran;
- Communal residual waste bins provided at multi-story buildings which are serviced at least 3 times/week; and
- A service for the collection of bulky household domestic items.

2.1.2 Commercial collection service consisting of:-

- A chargeable residual waste collection service;
- A chargeable dry recyclables collection service with separate collections for paper, card, cardboard and glass.

2.2 Domestic food waste collection services (phase 1) were successfully introduced during February 2013. As part of phase 2 of the new food waste collection services, arrangements are currently being developed for tenements and other flatted properties with communal areas. A range of collection options are being tested at a number of properties and will be the subject of customer consultation. The results of these trials will shape the new services being introduced throughout North Ayrshire.

2.3 The implementation of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 will introduce additional obligations on businesses to separate and recycle their waste from 2014. The new obligations will include the requirement for all businesses (including not-for-profit organisations and public sector bodies) to take all reasonable steps to separate dry recyclable materials - metal, plastic, paper, card and glass, from the rest of their waste for collection. In addition, all businesses that produce over 50kg of food waste per week will be required to separate their food waste for recycling.

2.4 In recognition that the introduction of the new obligations placed on businesses will require significant changes to their current waste management practices, the Council's Waste Awareness Officers are providing support, advice and assistance to businesses in the lead up to and during the changes.

2.5 To assist businesses meet their new recycling obligations, commercial waste collection services are being developed which will see an extension of the existing domestic co-mingled blue bin service for dry recyclables and a new food waste (brown bin) collection service for businesses being introduced.

- 2.6 The new commercial food waste collection service will see businesses which request a commercial service from the Council being provided with either a 140 litre wheeled bin or a 500 litre wheeled bin, depending on amounts of waste generated.
- 2.7 The new service will require to be accompanied by the introduction of a new commercial food waste collection charge. To recover costs incurred, it is proposed that, for each 140 litre wheeled food waste container collected, this is charged at £3.97 per uplift, and each 500 litre wheeled food waste bin is charged at a cost of £14.18 per uplift. It is proposed the charge be reviewed annually in line with the Council's current charging policy.
- 2.8 The Council's existing waste collection policy was previously developed in February 2008 to support the introduction of alternate weekly collections for residual waste and recyclables. With the recent implementation of the new weekly organic garden and food waste collections (brown bin) and additional materials being added to the co-mingled blue bin recycling service (including glass), an update to the policy is required. A refreshed waste collection policy has, therefore, been drafted which will also support the delivery of the proposed new commercial waste collection services and planned phase 2 extensions to the organic garden and food waste collections currently being developed for tenements and other flatted properties with communal areas.
- 2.9 The proposed revised waste collection policy has been considered by the Environment and Infrastructure Policy Board and is attached at Appendix 1.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 That Cabinet notes the proposal to extend the co-mingled blue bin recycling service and notes the introduction of a new chargeable food waste collection service for businesses
- 3.2 That Cabinet approves the new commercial food waste collection service charge for businesses.
- 3.3 That Cabinet approves the revised waste collection policy attached at Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The proposed commercial food waste collection service charge will allow the Council to recover its costs incurred in providing the new service.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no Human Resource implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 The introduction of the blue bin recyclables collection service and introduction of the chargeable food waste collection service for businesses will allow them to comply with their obligations under the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 An equality impact assessment on the proposed amended Waste Collection Policy has been carried out. The Policy incorporates an "Assisted Waste Collection Service" available for householders who are unable to present their wheeled bins at the kerbside due to reasons of medical infirmity.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 The implementation of the new commercial waste collection services will contribute to a reduction in the amount of waste being disposed of at landfill.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The implementation of the waste management strategy will contribute towards the achievement of a number of key objectives.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The proposed Waste collection Policy has been considered by the Environment and Infrastructure Policy Board.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The proposed introduction of new commercial waste collection services and the development of a refreshed waste collection policy will contribute to the implementation of North Ayrshires Waste Management Strategy 2012 – 2016. By carrying out the key actions contained within the strategy, the Council will contribute to the achievement of Scottish Government objectives outlined in Scotland's Zero Waste Plan.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : RM/DM/JA

For further information please contact Russell McCutcheon, Head of Environment & Related Services on telephone number 01294 541513

Background Papers

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North Ayrshire Council

Environment and Related Services - Waste Services

Policy for Waste Collection Services - Domestic and Commercial

North Ayrshire Mainland, Arran and Cumbrae

1. Introduction

- 1.1 North Ayrshire Council currently provides a range of waste collection services to householders and businesses in the area.
- 1.2 The collection services available to households consist of:-
 - An alternate weekly collection of commingled dry recyclables including cans, plastic bottles, glass, paper, card and cardboard (blue bin) and residual waste (grey bin);
 - An all year round weekly collection of organic garden and food waste (brown bin) - excluding Arran;
 - Communal residual waste bins provided at multi-story buildings which are serviced at least 3 times/week; and
 - A service for the collection of bulky domestic household items.
- 1.3 The collection services currently available to commercial premises on a chargeable basis consist of:-
 - A collection service for residual waste;
 - Individual collection services for recyclables, including paper, card, cardboard and glass.
- 1.4 The implementation of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 will introduce additional obligations on businesses to separate and recycle their waste from 2014. New commercial waste collection services are therefore being developed which will see an extension of the existing domestic commingled recyclables blue bin service and creation of a new food waste collection service for businesses to assist them in complying with their additional waste recycling obligations.
- 1.5 The Council is committed to supplying, where appropriate, a variety of services for commercial customers in line with Scotland's Resource Sector Commitment - a set of standards which support Scotland's Zero Waste ambitions whilst helping customers reduce waste and recycle more.

2. Household Commingled Dry Recyclables Collection (blue bin) and Organic Garden and Food Waste Collection (brown bin)

- 2.1 Each household, where practicable, will be provided with a 240 litre blue wheeled bin for the collection of commingled recyclables including clean paper, glass containers, newspaper, magazines, cardboard, hard plastics, plastic bottles, tetrapak (e.g. washed cartons), washed aluminium and steel cans. Dry cardboard boxes can be placed beside the blue bin for uplift and will be removed where no contamination is evident.
- 2.2 Each household, where practicable, will be provided with a 240 litre brown wheeled bin for the collection of organic waste (garden and food waste), with the exception of Arran where no service is required under a derogation set out within the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 2.3 The Council is committed to recycling material in line with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. Householders are asked not to contaminate material separated for recycling.
- 2.4 The blue recycling bin will be collected on an alternate weekly basis, on a specified day, from a suitable collection point which is designated by the Council. Collection days will be indicated by a collection day calendar provided to households.
- 2.5 The brown organic (garden and food waste) bin will be serviced on a weekly basis (excluding Arran).
- 2.6 Unbagged tied bundles of garden waste such as bushes and hedges no longer than 4 feet, which are set out beside the brown bin on the collection day will be uplifted for recycling provided there is no evident contamination with other non-garden waste materials.
- 2.7 Where a household is unable to use a 240 litre wheeled container for the collection of the dry recyclables or organic waste, due to reasons of access or lack of storage capacity, an alternate collection system will be offered. Where appropriate, this may take the form of:
 - Coloured sacks provided for the collection of the material. Sacks will be collected on the same frequency as the commingled dry recyclables service or the organic waste (food and garden waste) service as appropriate;
 - Larger containers provided for the collection of the above noted recyclable materials, shared by a number of households; and
 - Other alternative suitable arrangements which may be considered in line with waste service requirements.
- 2.8 Where a household regularly produces quantities of dry recyclables in excess of that which can be contained by one 240 litre wheeled blue bin, an additional wheeled bin may be supplied to the householder. Where a householder uses coloured sacks for the collection of dry recyclable materials, they may also be provided with an additional supply of sacks for the excess recyclable material generated.

- 2.9 Where a household regularly produces quantities of organic waste (garden and food waste) in excess of that which can be contained by one 240 litre brown wheeled bin, an additional wheeled bin may be supplied, at a charge, to the householder.
- 2.10 All waste containers required for new properties/dwellings must meet the same specification of the waste containers supplied by the Council. Containers for new housing developments can be provided to the developer or the householder at a charge on request.
- 2.11 Blue and brown wheeled bins or sacks which are presented for collection containing contaminating material such as non-recyclable waste cannot be uplifted. In these circumstances, where containers have not been uplifted, householders will be informed of the reason for non-collection and given appropriate guidance and advice. Householders would be asked to then re-present their wheeled bin/sacks on their next scheduled collection day. Advice and guidance is available from a number of sources including a Team of Waste Awareness Officers.
- 2.12 The Council may amend the materials which are accepted in each container from time to time as recycling practices, waste treatment technology and markets develop. Where any change is proposed, notification will be issued informing householders in advance.

3. Household Kerbside Residual Waste Collection (Grey bin)

- 3.1 Each household will be provided with a 240 litre grey wheeled bin for the collection and disposal of residual waste (non-recyclable waste), which cannot be recycled within the blue and brown recycling bins.
- 3.2 Householders are asked to only use the grey bin for non-recyclable domestic waste.
- 3.3 No additional side waste or bulky items should be deposited alongside the grey residual waste bin. Bulky items such as furniture and white metal goods can either be taken free of charge to one of the Council's household waste recycling centres or can be collected by arranging a special uplift which can be organised by contacting North Ayrshire Council's contact centre directly. Details of the provision of special uplift services are detailed in section 5 below.
- 3.4 Special arrangements will be made and communicated to householders during the festive period where extra waste may be generated.
- 3.5 The grey residual waste bin will be collected on an alternate weekly basis, on a specified day, from a suitable collection point which is designated by the Council. Collection days will be indicated by a collection day calendar provided to households.
- 3.6 Where a household is unable to accommodate a 240 litre wheeled container for the collection of residual waste, due to reasons of access or lack of storage capacity, a suitable alternative collection system for the collection of residual waste will be offered.

- 3.7 Larger containers may be provided for the collection of residual waste from properties shared by a number of households, such as flatted properties. Collection arrangements will be made as appropriate to the individual circumstances of the properties concerned, in line with service requirements.
- 3.8 Where a household regularly produces excess residual waste, which cannot be accommodated within a 240 litre wheeled bin, appropriate alternative solutions may be offered. These may include the provision of guidance on waste minimisation techniques by a Waste Awareness Officer or where special circumstances exist (for example medical conditions or large households etc) which create excess residual household waste, additional arrangements may be offered. Such circumstances are outlined in section 4 of this policy document.

4. Special circumstances: Additional Residual Waste Container Provision

4.1 Medical Circumstances

- 4.1.1 Where the medical circumstances of one or more persons residing within a household results in excess residual waste e.g. incontinence pads being generated which cannot be accommodated within a 240 litre wheeled bin collected on a two weekly basis, an additional residual waste container may be provided.
- 4.1.2 Householders may be requested to provide a medical certificate from a general practitioner supporting the need for an additional bin. The householder will be responsible for obtaining the medical certificate, if required.
- 4.1.3 Sharps bins for use in the home are available on prescription (FP10 prescription form) from GP's or pharmacists and cannot be collected by North Ayrshire Council as part of the normal waste collection services.

4.2 Large Households

- 4.2.1 Where households of 5 or more permanent residents produce excess residual waste which cannot be accommodated in a 240 litre wheeled bin collected on an alternative weekly basis, and who demonstrate that they are using their recycling containers fully and appropriately, an additional container may be provided.
- 4.2.2 The provision of an additional residual waste container may also be provided, to households who experience temporary but frequent increases in the number of persons residing within the household on a full time basis such as in the case of foster carers.
- 4.2.3 Householders will be required to notify the Council of any changes to the composition of their household, which may affect entitlement to an additional container.

4.3 Nappies

- 4.3.1 Where a household produces excess residual waste which cannot be accommodated in the 240 litre grey wheeled bin collected on an alternate weekly basis, and which arises from more than one child residing in the

household being in disposable nappies, the provision of a second container for residual waste can be considered.

- 4.3.2 Such households can be provided with an additional grey wheeled bin for the purpose of the collection of disposable nappies which cannot be accommodated within the 240 litre grey wheeled bin.
- 4.3.3 The additional grey wheeled bin will only be provided where there is more than one child under the age of 4 years residing within the household who uses disposable nappies.
- 4.3.4 Householders receiving an additional bin under these circumstances will be required to notify the Council of any changes to such circumstances. When the household no longer has more than one child under the age of 4 years, the additional grey wheeled bin will require to be returned. On receipt of such notifications, the Council will make arrangements with the householder as appropriate to retrieve the additional bin.

5. Waste Container Presentation Arrangements

- 5.1 Householders and commercial waste customers are advised of the designated collection day and designated collection point. Where any change is proposed, notification will be issued in advance to allow customers and householders to make any necessary arrangements.
- 5.2 Householders and commercial waste customers are required to present the appropriate container to the kerbside or designated collection point (with the lid closed) by 7:00am on the morning of collection.
- 5.3 Wheeled bins must not be left out on the public highway for longer than is necessary before or after collection. All wheeled bins must be removed from the pavement/collection point and returned to the storage point as soon as practical after emptying unless a valid assisted pull out exemption permit is displayed. Wheeled bins which are left out on the public highway for longer than is necessary before or after collection may be removed by the Council.
- 5.4 All wheeled bins must be stored where possible within the curtilage of the property and should be taken back to the storage point by the customer as soon as practical after servicing.
- 5.5 Wheeled bins require to be presented with their lids closed with no waste over spilling. Overfilled and/or excessively heavy containers will not be uplifted. Similarly, bins presented in a manner which may present health and safety implications to operatives will not be uplifted. In these circumstances the householder or commercial customer will be expected to correctly re-present their bin on the next uplift day after the bin weight has been adjusted or the items have been removed to allow the bin to be uplifted in a safe manner.

6. Special Uplift Service for Bulky Household Waste and White Goods

- 6.1 A chargeable special uplift service is offered to households which require the removal of items of bulky household waste. This service is also available for the uplift of white goods such as refrigerators, freezers and cookers. Special uplifts should be presented for collection at the kerbside.

- 6.2 Householders requiring a special uplift should contact the Council's Customer Contact Centre to request the service. Items should be presented for collection at the kerbside closest to the designated collection point for residual waste collection and householders should ensure that the items/white goods are clearly visible with easy access for collection crews.
- 6.3 It is necessary for householders to present items such as refrigerators and freezers free from food or drink residue, which may create odours upon collection and storage. Items containing food items may be rejected from the uplift service.
- 6.4 North Ayrshire Council may use partner organisations to collect reusable materials to reduce waste requiring to be landfilled.

7. Commercial Waste Producers

- 7.1 The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 place a number of obligations on commercial waste producers from 1 January 2014.

All businesses, not-for-profit organisations and public sector bodies must take all reasonable steps to separate dry recyclable materials (metal, plastic, paper, card and glass) from the rest of their waste for collection.

Food businesses producing over 50 Kg of food waste per week will be required to separate their food waste for recycling.

Food businesses producing over 5Kg of food waste per week from 1st January 2016 will also be required to separate their food waste for recycling.

- 7.2 North Ayrshire Council provides a chargeable commercial waste collection service to businesses who request service provision to enable compliance with the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and The Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. Businesses are required to sign up to a 12 months rolling contract, which is reviewed annually.
- 7.3 Commercial businesses operating from domestic premises may request a container and an uplift service for their commercial waste. This service is chargeable.
- 7.4 Where a commercial business is operated from a household, for example child minders, Kennels or Catteries, Waste Services is not obliged to uplift residual waste generated by the business as part of the household waste collection service.
- 7.5 North Ayrshire Council is committed to helping businesses recycle material in line with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012. Businesses must not contaminate material separated for recycling. Advice is available to businesses from the Council's Waste Awareness Officers. Environmental Health and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) may also intervene where businesses are not complying with the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.
- 7.6 Any containers which are presented for collection containing contaminating material will not be uplifted. The customer will be required to correctly re-present their bin on their next scheduled collection day. Advice on recycling

and waste minimisation is available from the Council's Waste Awareness Officers.

- 7.7 Containers and service provision for all commercial waste materials including recyclables and food waste are chargeable. Registered charitable organisations are provided with a 50% discount for services (some exceptions apply). Charitable organisations which operate competitive businesses producing large amounts of waste may not qualify for the discounted service.
- 7.8 Churches are provided with free waste collection services where the premise is wholly or mainly used for religious purposes.
- 7.9 Commercial waste service charges are commensurate with the size of container supplied and the frequency of collection. Side waste will not be uplifted. However, additional uplifts can be arranged, on a chargeable basis.

8 Solid Fuel

- 8.1 Where a household produces excess residual waste which arises as a result of the use of solid fuel as a primary source of heating, and which cannot be accommodated in a 240 litre grey wheeled bin collected on an alternative weekly basis an additional grey wheeled bin may be provided at a charge. The need for the provision of an additional bin for such reasons will be regularly reviewed. Any ashes presented in the grey wheeled bin must be separately bagged and tied to avoid dust when the bin is being emptied.

9 Containers

- 9.1 All containers which are provided for a fixed charge will be charged in line with charges as set by North Ayrshire Council.
- 9.2 The Council may provide second hand household containers at no charge where they are available and suitable for reuse.

10 Unspecified Circumstances

- 10.1 Where the individual circumstances of a householder, such as visual impairment, physical incapacity or location and type of property, renders them with difficulty in utilising the kerbside recycling service, alternative arrangements may be made for the collection of their household waste.

11 Assisted Waste Collection Service

- 11.1 An assisted waste collection service may be provided for householders who are unable to present their container at the kerbside due to medical infirmity and where there is no other able-bodied adult residing in the household. Where the householder has a wheeled bin the Council will pull out the householder's bin and return it after servicing.
- 11.2 Assessment is made for qualification of the provision of the service and the Council may request a medical certificate from a householder's general practitioner supporting the need for an assisted pull-out. The householder will be responsible for obtaining the medical certificate, if required.
- 11.3 Assisted Waste Collection service provision will be reviewed on a regular basis.

12 Extra Collections

12.1 Special arrangements by Waste Services will be made to deal with the following:

- Where missed collections occur, where the Council is at fault, we will be aim to collect within 1 working day of the missed collection;
- Additional collections requested from business customers that require removal of larger items can be arranged, on a chargeable basis, subject to the service being able to meet requirements; and
- Requests from landlords to service waste containers from empty or void properties can be arranged, on a chargeable basis, subject to the service being able to meet requirements.

13 Other Initiatives

13.1 The Council will continue to provide 'bring to' recycling points for use by householders for domestic waste.

13.2 The Council will continue to develop services which will increase the amount of waste material being reused, reduced, or recycled to meet the targets within Scottish Government's Zero Waste Plan and the Council's Waste Management Strategy 2012-16.

13.3 New initiatives may be incorporated into the waste collection service from time to time to reflect changing demands or service developments.

14 Monitoring and Review

14.1 The services provided will be reviewed regularly to ensure that the service achieves waste diversion targets established by the Scottish Government.

14.2 Customer feedback will be incorporated into service reviews, wherever practicable, to ensure that the waste services provided continue to meet the needs and aspirations of residents other customers.

14.2 Comments received through North Ayrshire Council's customer contact centre and on-line suggestion forms available on the Council's web site will be recorded and reviewed regularly to inform service developments.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 8

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Projects Funded from Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) 2013/14**

Purpose: To seek Cabinet's agreement for a programme of projects to be funded through the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) 2013/14.

Recommendation: That Cabinet agrees to (a) approve the programme of projects set out in Appendix 2 of the report, to be funded from the Council's Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) in 2013/14; and (b) delegate authority to the Corporate Director Development and Environment), in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Regeneration, to award any excess LCF monies from the 2013/14 allocation to any eligible project(s).

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Tax on landfill waste was introduced in 1996 as a means to reduce the amount of land-filled waste and to promote a shift to more environmentally sustainable methods of waste management.
- 1.2 The Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) is a tax credit scheme which enables the Council as a Landfill Operator to contribute money to enrolled environmental bodies to carry out projects that meet environmental objectives contained in the Landfill Tax Regulations.
- 1.3 Under the LCF, the Council, as a Landfill Operator, can distribute up to 6.8% of its landfill tax liability (5.6% last year) to enrolled environmental bodies to fund projects within the objectives of the scheme. This 1.2% increase from last year potentially enables additional landfill tax monies to be made available for eligible environmental projects. The new landfill tax liability rate, together with an associated increase in the standard rate for landfill from £64 to £72 a tonne (£8 increase since last year), have been set by HM Revenue & Customs. The Council can reclaim 90% of this contribution as a tax credit and bear the remaining 10% themselves. Enrolled bodies have to obtain approval for each project from Entrust, the regulator of the LCF, to ensure the project meets the declared objectives of the scheme.

- 1.4 Since the scheme began in 1997, the Council has contributed approximately £2,265,169 to a total of 149 projects. In the current financial year 2013/14, it is anticipated that £200,000 will be available from North Ayrshire Council to fund new projects. The £200,000 budget figure is based on the assumption that the overall general municipal waste will remain broadly similar to last year (2012/13) and is subject to the assumptions around the tonnage of waste that the Council will divert from landfill during the present year (2013/14) e.g. green waste and food waste.
- 1.5 The LCF budget for 2012/13 was £160,000. The projected budget figure of £200,000 for this year reflects the above assumptions, along with the fact that the 1.2% increase from last year in landfill tax allowable for the fund together with the yearly increase of £8 a tonne from last year will potentially provide a resultant increase in the amount of landfill tax monies available for eligible environmental projects. However, due to the fact that the amount of landfill tax is dependent on future tonnages, it is always difficult to be precise as to the final out-turn figure available for any given year. The assumptions are conservative and available funding may be higher.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 A total of 15 projects have been submitted for funding consideration this year.
- 2.2 The projects submitted cover a wide geographical area and involve a diverse range of works:
1. Bridge Church, Kilwinning: external improvements for disabled access and car parking at Vaults Lane Church Hall, Kilwinning;
 2. Arran Bee Club: education and training;
 3. Ardeer Rifle and Pistol Club, Stevenston: roof replacement works and new security entrance door;
 4. Ardrossan Church of the Nazarene, Glasgow Street, Ardrossan: Phase 2 roof repair works;
 5. Ardeer Parish Church, Stevenston: electrical (rewiring) works;
 6. West Kilbride Village Hall: installation of electrical doors and associated remedial works to the surrounding stained glass panels;
 7. St Inan's Angling Club, Beith: purchase of Cuffhill Reservoir and access improvements for less able bodied anglers;
 8. St Margaret's Church, Dalry: provision of a new replacement boiler;
 9. Ayrshire Rivers Trust: controlling priority invasive non-native riparian plants and restoring native biodiversity;
 10. National Trust for Scotland: Goatfell footpath improvements;
 11. Friends of Easmor Ecology, Isle of Arran: provision of a footbridge at Easmor Gorge near Kildonan;

12. Garnock Valley Allotment association: installation of a composting toilet and the erection of ten timber storage sheds at the allotment site to the rear of Sersley Drive, Kilbirnie;
 13. Girl Guiding Ayrshire North: provision of five wigwam cabins at Blair Estate, Dalry;
 14. Kilwinning Community Sports Club: renovation ground works for the provision of a dedicated sports development area; and
 15. Scottish Wildlife Trust: enhancing Irvine green spaces.
- 2.3 An evaluation of each project (Appendices 1 and 2) was carried out using the criteria agreed by the former Infrastructure and Environment Committee in March 1998 and augmented with new sustainability criterion agreed by the former Executive on 27 March 2012.
- 2.4 The sum of £200,000 - less the £3,000 awarded to Barrmill Community Association from this year's budget - is available for distribution. The £3,000 sum was brought forward from the 2013/14 budget to allow a full award for the Barrmill project 2012/13.
- 2.5 The LCF budget is oversubscribed this year, with the 15 projects looking for total funding of £226,211.24. To meet the available budget of £197,000, no award is to be made to Kilwinning Community Sports Club for grounds works to create a dedicated sports development area, on the basis that it is considered premature given the uncertainty at this stage about the likely level of partnership funding that the project will attract. The group is to be invited to re-apply next year by which stage the overall funding position should be clearer. These aspects are detailed in Appendix 2 to this report, thereby enabling the award of £196,211.24 from this year's LCF allocation.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to approve (a) the programme of projects set out in the report, to be funded from the Council's Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) in 2013/14; and (b) to delegate authority to the Corporate Director (Development and Environment), in liaison with the Portfolio Holder for Economy and Employment, to award any excess LCF monies from the 2013/14 allocation to an eligible project(s) thereby enabling the award of our LCF allocation within the present financial year. (If the Council does not allocate the funds, the tax has to be passed onto HM Revenue & Customs).

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The cost to the Council is 10% of the sum spent (ie £19,621). Funding for the 10% priming to finance the scheme is included in the Development and Environment Budget.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 The LCF is directed towards local environmental improvement schemes that accord with the objectives of Entrust, the scheme regulator. Suitable projects can include reclamation works, projects that reduce or prevent pollution on land, projects that provide or maintain public amenities or parks, delivery of biodiversity for UK species or habitats, and projects to restore or repair a building of architectural interest. The 14 projects submitted for 2013/14 that are ready to proceed will bring local environmental and community benefits which would not otherwise be achieved.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The LCF scheme objectives and the proposed environmental projects contribute to the implementation of the Council's Single Outcome Agreement/Action Plan and, in particular, will assist in addressing the SOA objective of "Building Community Capacity and Community Engagement".

5. Consultations

- 5.1 Financial Services and Waste Services have been consulted.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 A total of 15 projects have been submitted for funding consideration this year against an estimated budget figure of £197,000 approx. The 15 projects are looking for funding of £226,211.24 and to meet the available budget. No award is proposed for Kilwinning Community Sports Club for drainage and land works to create a sports development area as the project is considered premature due to uncertainty with partnership funding. The exclusion of this project from funding consideration this year will enable the award of £196,211.24 from this year's allocation. All of the projects submitted for approval represent a variety of types of work and benefit communities at the local level throughout the Council's area.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : RRH

For further information please contact Richard Henry, Planning Officer on telephone number 01294 324777

Background Papers

N/A

Landfill Communities Funding 2013/14: Project Consideration Evaluation Report

Evaluation Criteria

1. Job Creation
The project will lead to creation of new jobs directly or indirectly or provide training opportunities directly or indirectly.
2. Partnership Value
The project is being financially supported by one or more other organisations and the Council's contribution would form part of a total package.
3. Sustainability
The project addresses guiding principles for sustainable development to provide lasting community benefits in terms of community regeneration, enhancing environmental quality, improving accessibility, reducing carbon emissions and improving energy efficiency.
4. Education and Research
The project will provide educational or research benefits to the local community.
5. Council Support
The project has been proposed by a Council department, and is on Council-owned land, or has been put forward by a local Councillor.
6. Policy Support
The project is promoted in a document which defines Council policy, e.g. a Local Plan, Housing Plan, Local Transport Strategy etc.

Project	Amount requested	Job Creation	Partnership Value	Sustainability	Education & Research	Council Support	Policy Support	Total	No in Priority Type
		1	2	3	4	5	6		
Bridge Church, Kilwinning: external improvements for disabled access and car parking at Vaults Lane Church Hall	£15,948	*	*	*	*			4	3
Arran Bee Club: education and training	£500			*	*		*	3	1
Ardeer Rifle & Pistol Club, Stevenston: roof replacement works and new security entrance door	£16,992		*	*		*		3	3
Ardrossan Church of the Nazarene, Glasgow Street, Ardrossan: Phase 2 roof repair works	£17,376		*	*	*	*		4	3
Ardeer Parish Church, Stevenston: electrical (rewiring) works	£22,600		*	*	*	*		4	3
West Kilbride Village Hall: installation of electrical doors and associated remedial works to the surrounding stained glass panels	£9,700			*	*	*	*	4	2
St Inan's Angling Club, Beith: purchase of Cuffhill Reservoir associated with access improvements for less able bodied anglers	£15,000		*	*		*		3	3
St Margaret's Parish Church, Dalry: replacement boiler	£25,000		*	*		*		3	3
Ayrshire Rivers Trust: Controlling priority invasive non-native riparian plants and restoring native biodiversity	£2,825.24	*	*	*			*	4	3
National Trust for Scotland (NTS): Goatfell footpath improvements	£13,500	*	*	*	*		*	5	3
Friends of Easmor Ecology, Kildonan, Isle of Arran: Easmor Gorge walk bridge	£23,160	*		*	*			3	2
Garnock Valley Allotment Association: installation of a composting toilet and the erection of ten timber storage sheds at the allotment site to the rear of Sersley Drive, Kilbirnie	£7,222		*	*		*	*	4	3
Girl Guiding Ayrshire North: provision of five wigwam cabins at Blair Estate, Dalry	£17,138		*	*	*	*		4	3
Kilwinning Community Sports Club: Renovation ground works for the provision of a dedicated sports development area	£30,000 Part Score See Appendix 2		?	*	*	*	*	4	2
Scottish Wildlife Trust: Enhancing Irvine green spaces	£9,250	*	*	*	*		*	5	3

Shaded Columns indicate evaluation score in priority categories of job creation, partnership value, sustainability and Council support.

Geographical Distribution

Landfill Communities Funding to date by geographical area

Area	No of Projects	Funding
Irvine/Kilwinning	42	798,792
Ardrossan/Saltcoats/ Stevenston	27	379,972
Arran	23	290,089
Garnock Valley	21	241,690
North Coast and Cumbraes	29	460,536
District wide projects	7	94,090.21
TOTAL	149	2,265,169

Project	Funds Requested	Evaluation Score: Total/No in Priority Type	Recommendation
The Bridge Church, Kilwinning – external improvements for disabled access and car parking at Vaults Lane. The group have requested funding of £15,948 towards a project cost of £21,264. The project comprises further improvements to the Church Hall at Vaults Lane. Proposed works include the provision of disabled access ramps and the construction of two pathways serving the main front and side entrances to the hall; resurfacing the hard standing area to cater for 2/3 exclusive disabled parking bays; and to extend the height of the perimeter wall and install 3 lockable gateways to the property. LCF assistance of £20,000 was provided to Bridge Church in 2010/11 for structural repairs to the fabric of the building. The present submission will enable the Church to continue a programme of works carried out over a number of years primarily with their own funding. Improvements to date have included renewed heating system, upgrade to small catering kitchen, re-built staging, re-flooring in hall and re-guttering to the roof. The proposed works will benefit the Church and the wider community as the project will address the access issues on the property and will also aesthetically enhance the streetscape thus contributing to the recent renovation works in and around Kilwinning Main Street. The Church is actively involved in local community work and the Vaults Lane Hall is used for general Church activities as well as activities organised by the Bridge Church Community Action Group, a registered charity. The Hall is also used by a dance group, a base for offering support to families of those in prison and with substance abuse and addiction problems, lunch time clubs and breakfast clubs for senior citizens, keep-fit and training sessions and is available for rental to local community groups. The Church Hall provides training opportunities on an ongoing basis for the group's youth work apprentices with three having just finished their apprenticeship and another two recently started.	£15,948	4/3	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust
Arran Bee Club: education and training. The group have requested funding of £500 to cover the cost of bringing specialists to Arran to give talks, training and advice to the recently formed local Bee Club. The group members would contribute by providing accommodation for the visiting lecturers. Arran Bee Club now has 10 members and is expanding. There is a lack of knowledge within the local group about the need for bees and how they should be looked after. Education is considered necessary as beekeeping can be complicated with new ideas being introduced. Most clubs, many with long term beekeepers find new speakers with new ideas especially new ideas on how disease can be controlled. The good that bees do within a community and the perilous state that the bee apiaries are in at present are well documented.	£500	3/1	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust
Ardeer Rifle and Pistol Club, Stevenston: roof replacement works and new security entrance door. The group have requested funding of £16,992 towards a project cost of £19,500 involving replacement roof works and new security front door to their shooting range building at Ardeer. The club has already spent £2500 to replace 20% approx. of the existing roof. These initial repair works have left their club funds severely depleted and they are unable to progress the roof repairs any further without financial assistance. The existing roof is almost 84 years old and is in a very poor condition. The indoor (paper target) shooting range, which was formed in 1929 as part of the Ardeer Chemical factory sporting club, currently has 27 members of all ages and is open to membership without restriction. The club has a reigning European pistol champion with members having represented their country in national and international competition, including European, World and Commonwealth Championships. The club provide a disciplined approach to the sport and are able to provide sporting facilities for the disabled. The proposed project works would make a substantial difference to the club, its members and the local community. The club have never sought funding from any organisation in the past.	£16,992	3/3	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust
Ardrossan Church of the Nazarene, Glasgow Street, Ardrossan: Phase 2 roof repair works. The group have requested funding of £17,376 (total project cost) for the second phase of roof replacement works; phase one roof replacement works have been carried out following the LCF award of £18,152 last year and the group were invited to re-apply for phase 2 works this year. The project for the Category "C" Listed Building involves having the roof stripped and re-slatted using a good quality slate. Significant fund raising of £60,000 has been carried out by the Church over the last 5 years to improve the condition of the property both externally and	£17,376	4/3	Agree

Project	Funds Requested	Evaluation Score: Total/No in Priority Type	Recommendation
internally. Funding assistance has been provided by Irvine Bay Regeneration Company, Community Energy Scotland, Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, Big Lottery Coastal Communities, Greenway and Ayrshire Community Trust. A new Foodbank facility was first established in December 2012 with grant assistance from NAC's Community Development and some 6 tons of food has been collected to date with 4 tons having been sorted and distributed across North Ayrshire residents. The Foodbank has 32 partners including Social Services, Criminal Justice, Job Centre Plus, Health Board Departments, Routes out of Prison and Homeless Units. Part of the Foodbank storage area is under the section of roof still to be replaced. The Church continues to run a busy community café (which has grown with the set-up of the Foodbank facility), assists people with diabetes, alcohol and narcotic problems, runs a children's community cinema (with recent grant support from Awards for All), has a community choir, an art class, craft club, two youth groups for primary and secondary school children and a parents and toddlers group. The Church has some 360 people per week using its facilities excluding the 80 members who attend Sunday services.			
Ardeer Parish Church, Stevenston: electrical (rewiring) works. The group have requested funding of £22,600 for electrical works as part of a comprehensive programme of works to the Church building and hall estimated to cost £240,000 approx. As a result of the new Presbytery Plan, Ardeer Parish Church and Livingstone Parish Church are to link but are to retain both places of worship. This plan has in effect removed a previous care and maintenance restriction placed on Ardeer thus giving the congregation the opportunity to do much needed property maintenance. The electrical works comprise the rewiring of the entire building to meet safety standards. The General Trustees of the Church of Scotland are to meet the cost of external stone work repairs and the congregation have to fund the internal works to make it fit for purpose. There are extensive external repairs required including stain glass window restoration; repairs to stone work, slates and gutters; central heating upgrade; repairs to boundary railings and redecoration. Funds are also required to upgrade the hall accommodation, kitchen and toilets which are all essential to meet the needs of all groups and the community. The Church is located in one of the 8 poorest community areas for multiple deprivation and is classified as an Urban Priority Area. Whilst being a place of worship, the Church also provide facilities for a large number of youth groups within the community including Boys Brigade and Girls Brigade (totalling 150/170 children each week) a large Sunday School and runs a Summer Mission. In addition, the Church was instrumental in setting up a charitable group called ASFACT (Ardeer Stevenston Faith and Community Together) which aims to alleviate some of the social problems affecting this part of Stevenston. The group are seeking grant support from a wide range of bodies including the Council and intend to phase the proposed works over a number of years. The project, which is Entrust registered, is supported by Katy Clark MP, Margaret Burgess MSP, Cllr W Gibson Leader of NAC and Elma Murray Chief Executive of the Council.	£22,600	4/3	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust
West Kilbride Village Hall: installation of electrical doors and associated remedial works to the surrounding stained glass panels. The group have requested funding of £9,700 for the replacement of the existing swing doors with electrical doors together with remedial works to the surrounding stained glass panels. The total project cost is estimated to be £9,749. The existing double leaf swing entrance doors to the village hall are heavy and awkward to operate by those with walking aids, pushchairs, wheelchair users and those taking equipment or exhibition material into the main hall. At present this is resolved by the doors being wedged open causing instant heat loss and an unacceptable temperature for some user groups and leading to increased utility bills. The village hall plays a key role in the daily activities of the community and the group works with other bodies including the West Kilbride Community Initiative, The Community Council, The Boys Brigade and the Church of Scotland as well as a diverse range of user groups. Improving the accommodation will lead to increased rental and possibly the addition of a further employee. The reduction of heat loss will significantly improve energy efficiency of the hall and the provision of new automatic doors will also provide easier access for large groups (school children and other	£9,700	4/2	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust

Project	Funds Requested	Evaluation Score: Total/No in Priority Type	Recommendation
interested parties regularly visit the West Kilbride Museum on the first floor) and delivery of educational equipment. The project is supported by the three Local Members - Cllrs McLardy, Barr and McMillan – and the Council's Community Engagement Manager for Education & Skills.			
<p>St Inan's Angling Club, Beith: purchase of Cuffhill Reservoir and access improvements for less able bodied anglers.</p> <p>The group have requested funding of £15,000 to help purchase Cuffhill Reservoir and carry out local improvements to allow better access for less able bodied anglers. The reservoir is located north east of Beith and the total project cost is £20,000. The club have already spent £2,300 on an access road and car park and will provide the remaining £5,000 for the proposed project. The club has been in existence since the late 1800's and need to purchase the reservoir to remain in existence. The water has not been fished regularly for about 15/20 years and has become very overgrown and any paths have long since disappeared. Club members have started to cut back the vegetation growth carried out local access improvements to make most areas available for fishing. An on-going programme of grass cutting, trimming of bushes and fence repairs is required and the club hope to carry out other improvements in the future to make the facility more attractive eg local drainage enhancements and provision of picnic benches. The project is supported by Cllr Jean Highgate.</p>	£15,000	3/3	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust. The Garnock Valley is considered to be a priority area for funding.
<p>St Margaret's Parish Church, Dalry: provision of a new replacement boiler.</p> <p>The group have requested funding of £25,000 to help provide a replacement Church boiler estimated to cost a total of £35,000 as part of more comprehensive repair works programmed by the Church costing £610,000. The outstanding £10,000 for the replacement boiler will be met by the Church themselves. The existing oil fired boiler was installed in 1953 and urgently requires to be replaced with new gas boilers for a zoned heating system. St Margaret's is a category "B" listed building and the Church is a focal point in the town. The Church has obtained Heritage Lottery funding of £5,000 towards the Development Phase of Essential Repairs and funding in principle of £179,000 towards Essential Repairs where the overall project cost is £229,000. These works will be programmed over the next few years. As well as being used for normal worship, the Church is used for a number of concerts attended by the local community with its halls catering for non-Church organisations and a charity shop serving the community. The project is supported by Cllr Robert Barr.</p>	£25,000	3/3	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust. The Garnock Valley is considered to be a priority area for funding.
<p>Ayrshire Rivers Trust: Controlling priority invasive non-native riparian plants and restoring native biodiversity.</p> <p>Ayrshire Rivers Trust (ART) has been controlling Giant Hogweed for some years now on the River Ayr. In 2011 ART commenced a wider project to tackle 3 priority species (Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam) across Ayrshire funded largely by INTERREG IV, a European Regional Development Fund. This 4 year project aims to halt the spread of the target species and reduce the extent of their distribution in Ayrshire. In 2010 ART applied for and received £3,000 of match funding for the Ayrshire wide project with North Ayrshire works extending to the control of Giant Hogweed along the River Garnock and tributaries, lower River Irvine, Annick Water and the Shewalton ponds. ART also co-ordinated Himalayan Balsam control in the upper Garnock and now plan to extend control on the River Irvine, lower Garnock and lower Annick Water along with control of Japanese Knotweed along the length of the River Garnock (within budgetary limits). This is the first time that control of Giant Hogweed had been undertaken in a strategic and comprehensive manner. The Interreg project will allow ART to maintain and expand the control of these invasive plant species over the next 2 years, delivering an invaluable service to communities in North Ayrshire. Each year ART host a training course for volunteers and have trained 14 volunteers living in North Ayrshire to City & Guilds NPTC PA6AW certification. The project is 75% funded by the EU, providing a high level of gearing for locally secured funds. The total project costs over the 5 years are £347,611.50 and Art are seeking a contribution of £2825.24 from each of the 3 Ayrshire Councils.</p>	£2825.24	4/3	Agree subject to registration with Entrust
<p>National Trust for Scotland (NTS): Goatfell footpath improvements.</p> <p>The group have requested funding of £13,500 for repair footpath works at Goatfell on Arran estimated to cost a total of £15,000; the remaining £1,500 will be met by NTS. Some 640 metres of footpath running from the top of</p>	£13,500	5/3	Agree

Project	Funds Requested	Evaluation Score: Total/No in Priority Type	Recommendation
Fionn Choire up to the summit of Cir Mhor on Goatfell requires repair works. This section of footpath is fairly robust but is suffering from erosion and is gullied in places. This is leading to loss of soils, vegetation and line definition. The planned work is to stabilise the erosion and divert water from the damaged areas, infill the gullied sections and create a single line of access to prevent further erosion making it more pleasant for the public, assist access and help conserve the area's biodiversity. The route is used by all types of walkers from day trippers to mountaineers, geology students and is also used to access rock climbs on the Cir Mhor cliffs. North Arran is one of the most important geological areas in Britain with its jagged, granitic summits and ridges providing a dramatic and awe inspiring setting for the walking experience. Footfall accessing this area is estimated at approx. 8,500 annually. NTS are a registered environmental body with Entrust and the Goatfell project has been registered with Entrust.			
Friends of Easmor Ecology, Kildonan, Isle of Arran: Provision of a footbridge at Easmor Gorge near Kildonan. The group have requested funding of £23,160 for the provision of a footbridge to connect the east and west gorge pathways at Easmor, near Kildonan. This project will be situated in an area of scenic beauty in Arran. The land is under private ownership but is fully accessible by the public. The project forms part of a larger plan for the site which includes an Ecology Centre, reception building and Hydro-electric power station. Approximately 1400m of paths, suitable for powered wheelchairs have been laid on the site. Total landfill funding of £88,612 has been provided to the group over the last 5 years for path improvement works, related path boundary fencing and environmental improvements to the viewing platform area; a sum of £27,519 was provided last year from the LCF allocation to the group for footpath works comprising the creation of 446 metres of new paths. This award was for two separate phases of works; phase one of £13,783 was awarded in October 2012 and an additional phase two element for £13,736 being excess monies available from last year's budget was awarded in March 2013. Access connection between the east and west gorge walkways will enable full public access running from the bottom to the top of the Easmor gorge. The site has spectacular views from the west over Pladda and Ailsa Craig. The group are a registered charity and company limited by guarantee that is registered with Entrust. The footbridge project already has Entrust registration.	£23,160	3/2	Agree.
Garnock Valley Allotment Association: installation of a composting toilet and the erection of ten timber storage sheds at the allotment site to the rear of Sersley Drive, Kilbirnie. The group have requested funding of £7,222 for the provision of a composting toilet and ten storage sheds at their allotment in Kilbirnie. The total project cost is estimated to be £11,850 with the balance of £4,628 being met by Ayrshire Leader. A contribution of £840 will be provided by the group volunteers in the form of in-kind support towards the building of the storage units. The group secured planning permission for the allotment site in 2009 and there are now some 50 plots of varying sizes on site; two container cabins, one for equipment and the other as a meeting place and kitchen; a 17 space car park and a raised bed area for less abled bodied gardeners. Since the opening of the site over 100 voluntary workdays have been organised to carry out site maintenance activities. The proposed purchase of a composting toilet will benefit the allotment users having such a facility within the site and the group will be able to have regular open days, barbeques, family garden days and fundraising activities which will be open to all Garnock Valley residents. The site will also be able to be used as a base for social referral projects, and Aspire Scotland a care and education provider who support children and young people facing serious challenges in their life – they are based in Radio City and now manage their own plot and take part in volunteering activities within the site. A similar composting toilet has been installed by the National Trust and the Forestry Commission and is used in various allotment sites around the country. The dry toilet requires no mains connections, is odour free under normal use and has wheelchair accessibility. It has an amenity or allotment site capacity of 50 uses per day and this figure can rise considerably for short peak use periods. The project has the support of a local Councillor, MSP and the Council Allotments Policy Officer.	£7,222	4/3	Agree subject to project registration with Entrust. The Garnock Valley is considered to be a priority area for funding.
Girl Guiding Ayrshire North : provision of five wigwam cabins at Blair Estate, Dalry	£17,138	4/3	Agree subject to

Project	Funds Requested	Evaluation Score: Total/No in Priority Type	Recommendation
<p>The group have requested funding of £17,138 for the purchase and installation of five wigwams (3 wee brave wigwams and 2 big chief wigwams) at their camp site within the Community Woodland at Blair Estate. The total project cost is estimated at £39,738 with the balance of £22,600 being met by the group (£17,600) and BBC Children in Need (£5,000). The group own an 8 acre site within the Community Woodland where they aim to provide girls and young women with access to a wide range of social, recreational, and educational activities as part of their personal development, providing them with life skills that they can go on to use throughout their lives in a safe and welcoming environment. The wigwams, which will have disabled access, are capable of accommodating up to 22 people in addition to regular camping tents for their new campsite and will expand the camping opportunities available to the Girl Guides. There are currently 2,500 girls in Girlguiding Ayrshire North at present and activity focuses on specific age ranges including rainbows (aged 5/7), brownies (aged 7/10), guides (aged 10/14) and seniors (14/25). A new camp site was established as a Phase 1 project by the group in 2012 with funding assistance from the People's Postcode Trust. Phase 2 works involved the completion of a camp store building in May 2013 and sufficient funding has now been secured to construct a new toilet block with showers and disabled access to the rear of the camp store. To date the group have secured in excess of £350,000 for these developments and planning permission has been obtained. Phase 3 works relate to the present wigwam proposals so that the campsite can be accessible all year round to a wider range of young girls and women. There was previously an old "Brownie House" on site which provided accommodation for 24 people but this facility was destroyed by vandals in 2010 and the new wigwam accommodation will help address the need for additional site accommodation. The site at Blair Estate is used by Girl Guide Units from Ireland, England and other parts of Scotland for their summer holidays as well as neighbouring counties and the group's own girls within Ayrshire North. The project is supported by Brian Donohoe MP, Katy Clark MP, Margaret Burgess MSP and Councillor Irene Oldfather.</p>			<p>project registration with Entrust. The Garnock Valley is considered to be a priority area for funding.</p>
<p>Kilwinning Community Sports Club: Renovation ground works for the provision of a dedicated sports development area.</p> <p>The group have requested funding of £30,000 for renovation ground works comprising necessary drainage and surface treatment to develop a dedicated sports development area for all year round football use, tennis and putting. The total project cost is estimated to be £108,000 with potential contributions from the Weir Foundation (£40,000), Irvine Housing Association (£30,000) and the shortfall of £8,000 being met by the club. The project is based around the Club's ever increasing participation levels and the requirement for them to provide playing, training and outdoor activity areas all year round. The Club's membership levels and facility usage has increased over the years and the club expect levels to increase further with their new club house building opening and their new 3rd generation synthetic football pitch opening soon. NAC funding of £642,000 was provided for this significant project along with £30,000 from LCF in 2011/12. The land is Council owned and leased to the Kilwinning Sports Club. The group are a registered Environmental Body and received landfill funding in previous years for soft landscaping works and environmental enhancement of equipment storage area. There is uncertainty at this stage about the likely level of partnership funding that this project will attract and it is, therefore, considered that the bid for LCF in the current year is premature.</p>	£30,000	<p>Part Score 4/2</p> <p>Unable to score in respect of partnership value as there is uncertainty about the likely level of partnership funding that this project will attract. At present there is gap funding of £70,000.</p>	<p>No award – agree to defer the project and invite them to re-apply next year.</p>
<p>Scottish Wildlife Trust: Enhancing Irvine green spaces</p> <p>The group have requested funding of £9,250 to carry out a programme of work to restore and enhance its nine SWT reserves in Irvine. The total project cost is estimated to be £11,340 with the balance of £1,090 being met by SWT. The project aims to develop the character of the 9 reserves in the area and enhance community access to and enjoyment of the reserves. These objectives will be achieved through a range of activities supporting native woodland species, access improvements, making safe hazardous trees, enhancing site fencing and habitat enhancements. The 9 reserve areas in Irvine include Corsehillmuir Wood, Sourlie Wood, Lawthorn Wood, Oldhall Ponds, Perceton Wood, Shewalton Wood, Shewalton Sandpits, Gales Marsh and Garnock Floods. These</p>	£9,250	5/3	<p>Agree subject to project registration with Entrust.</p>

Appendix 2 – Programme of projects to be considered for LCF 2013/14

Project	Funds Requested	Evaluation Score: Total/No in Priority Type	Recommendation
reserves cover a range of habitats (grassland, woodland, and wetland) and provide protection for a wide variety of bird, plant, invertebrate and mammal species. All of the sites are owned by SWT and are local biodiversity sites. Much of the project would be carried out by supervised Project Teams, thereby providing valuable training in conservation tasks and boosting employability for groups of volunteers. The 9 reserve sites which make up the Irvine Greenspaces are all within easy walking and cycling distance of where people live, giving the local community important access to high quality greenspace and a vital recreational resource close to home. The reserves are also used as an educational resource by local schools, encouraging the younger generation to appreciate and conserve the natural environment.			
TOTAL			Agree to award £196,211.24

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 9

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Housing Development at Eglinton Country Park, Kilwinning (“the Country Park”)**

Purpose: To inform Cabinet of recent developments in relation to the housing development located within the Country Park.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet (a) agrees to note the proposals to be contained within the Minute of Agreement, which enables the relevant areas of the Country Park to be acquired by the Council; and (b) requests that officers bring back future reports to Cabinet in relation to reinstatement works which are required as a consequence of the development work at the park.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Eglinton was designated as a Country Park in 1986 and registered as the 34th Country Park in Scotland. The Countryside (Scotland) Act, 1967, defines a country Park as “...a park or pleasure ground in the countryside, which by reason of its position in relation to major concentrations of population affords convenient opportunities to the public for enjoyment of the countryside or open-air recreation”. The North Ayrshire Council Countryside Ranger Service, (“the Rangers”), part of the Educational and Skills Directorate manages the Country Park on behalf of the Council.
- 1.2 The mission statement of the Country Park is:
“... to provide, within a countryside setting, facilities for outdoor recreation which allow the inhabitants of North Ayrshire and surrounding areas to enjoy visits to the countryside, while gaining an appreciation and understanding of their local environment.”
- 1.3 The Country Park provides a range of activities, which benefit the local community and which attract visitors from across North Ayrshire and beyond, on an international scale.

- 1.4 The Country Park extends to 1000 acres (400 ha). At present, it is estimated that 330,000 people visit the Country Park each year, including the Visitor Centre, schools and events programmes. The Country Park is also host to a number of large and smaller club and not-for-profit organisations, which provide events and activities to visitors, in partnership with the Country Park. Those events range from vintage car rallies, dog shows, charity races, equestrian events and an annual art exhibition of national significance.
- 1.5 In accordance with Scottish Natural Heritage guidelines, the Rangers provide a valuable environmental education resource, taking care of North Ayrshire's natural and cultural resources for the benefit of the public, particularly children and community groups.
- 1.6 The Country Park performs the following functions:
- delivers innovative, exciting and stimulating environmental education for schools, youth and community groups;
 - encourages a wide range of public events, aimed at families and young people;
 - facilitates and supports volunteering opportunities, aimed at community engagement and skills development, including activities accommodating people with mental health and additional needs;
 - creates, develops and implements projects designed to improve the local environment for both visitors and wildlife;
 - surveys and monitors wildlife species and habitats;
 - sources and provides information and advice on wildlife and access rights to the countryside;
 - manages the Country Park for public or community events; and
 - supports the planning, preparation and organisation of community events.
- 1.7 The Country Park is also a vital element in the Scottish Government's drive for greener, safer, cleaner communities and responds creatively to community demand for empowerment, in relation to countryside education, conservation, habitat surveying and monitoring, resource protection and events and activities.
- 1.8 The Country Park is host to an innovative all-abilities play park and to several small businesses and social enterprises that have recently become established.
- 1.9 Provided that the appropriate measures continue to be taken, the Country Park is ideally placed to play a key role in the exciting and innovative programme planned by the Council and its partners for the 2014 Legacy Programme and beyond.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The Country Park takes its name from the Lords of Eglinton, who held tenure to the lands from 1080 to 1350 when intermarriage with another notable Scottish family, the Montgomeries, secured the relative stability of the estate for a further 550 years.
- 2.2 The landscape of the Country Park has been formally recognised historically as outstanding since the basic components of the radial design of the formal landscape featured in General Roy's map of 1750. The lands remained in Montgomerie hands until taken over by the War Department during World War II, for use as a military training ground and vehicle depot.
- 2.3 In 1948, Robert Wilson & Sons (Est. 1849) Ltd., a food processing firm, purchased twenty hectares at the centre of the Estate from the Earl of Eglinton, including the castle ruins and the 18th century stable block, later converted into a food factory. The factory owner, Clement Wilson, a generous employer and benefactor, subsequently established the Clement Wilson Foundation which, for charitable purposes, promoted, developed and maintained facilities (including the preservation of historic buildings) and projects for the benefit of the local community.
- 2.4 In 1978, the Clement Wilson Foundation gifted the Castle ruins and the associated formally landscaped gardens to Cunninghame District Council as a park, to be made available for the use of the public in all time coming. That donation formally specified that no car parking was to be permitted within the donated park area. The Clement Wilson Foundation permitted the car parking for park visitors to be established and maintained on the factory site, to be maintained by the Council, whilst that arrangement remained in place.
- 2.5 In the 1980s Irvine Development Corporation ("IDC") acquired the land adjacent to the gifted formal gardens, for the establishment and development of the Country Park between 1981 and 1996 (when IDC was wound up as a new town), emphasising the history of the Eglinton Estate and actively promoting the formal landscape of the 18th century, which had enjoyed such prominence historically.

- 2.6 The food factory ceased functioning in 1997 and the factory buildings, including the listed stable block, building fell into decline. The subjects were marketed on the open market until the developer, Eglinton Leisure Limited (who and whose successor is referred to hereafter as “the Developer”), purchased the factory subjects in 1999. Those subjects comprised the former factory site area, but also the formal gardens on either side and land to the east of the factory subjects, currently used as informal open space. Additionally, the Developer’s land ownership includes the Main Access Road serving the Country Park from Irvine Road, Kilwinning, coloured light green on the plan accompanying this report (“the Plan”), at Appendix 1.
- 2.7 Legal Ownership
- 2.7.1 Eglinton Leisure Limited purchased the development site from Robert Wilson & Sons (Est. 1849) Limited in 1999.
- 2.7.2 Eglinton Leisure Limited transferred its ownership of the development site to Goldcare Investments Limited in October 2010.
- 2.7.3 In January 2013, Goldcare Investments Limited conveyed its ownership of the Grade B listed building, now known as Eglinton Stables to Stable Homes Limited.
- 2.7.4 Although legal ownership appears to have changed since 1999, the current proprietor of the development site, under deduction of Eglinton Stables, continues to be a company “associated” with the original developer, Eglinton Leisure Limited.
- 2.7.5 It is to be noted that the development site is located adjacent to the Visitor Centre and the nature and extent of the development site impacts upon the historical provision of car parking and access to and egress from the Country Park.
- 2.7.6 Planning Permission N/08/00328/PP was granted to the Developer on 21 April 2010 for a housing development, to include the conversion of Eglinton Stables, to form twelve dwelling flats and additionally the construction of twenty four dwelling houses, with associated parking and access road.
- 2.8 The nature and extent of the work required to progress the development has resulted in a continuous and significant impact on the Country Park, to the extent that on occasions the day to day working operations have been detrimentally affected. The overall reputation of the Country Park has been at stake. Administratively, significant hours of officer time, across all Council services, have been invested in resolving a range of issues.

2.9 Examples of the above include:

2.9.1 Difficulties with car parking: Reduced car parking availability, due to the fact that the replacement car park (the New Car Park), required in terms of the Planning Permission, has not yet been constructed. This has caused some event organisers to relocate regular events from the Country Park, resulting in lost income and reputational damage to the Country Park. On busy days visitors are now required to park in the events fields on non-event days. On event days, existing tenants of the Country Park require to vacate their fields to enable those fields to be used for car parking. This causes significant disruption to the tenants and to the Country Park's operation, due to the increased requirements of effective communication and administration of such changes.

2.9.2 Difficulties with access:

- The loss of vehicular access to the eastern side of the Country Park has significantly altered the manner of how events and activities are conducted in this area. This was anticipated, to a degree, for a period of time, but is now expected to remain the case for the duration of the development period. For example, the annual Race for Life event has been adversely affected this year (lack of safe running route) and this event may require to be relocated to a different venue in future years.
- The location of the development site has impacted upon the Council's ability to maintain the surrounding park areas to the Council's satisfaction. Experience of the current situation has prepared the Council for the fact that even when fully developed, its ability to maintain the adjacent areas of the Country Park will be affected by the location of the development site.
- The extent of the development site is not clear to the public on the ground. Some areas of the development site are and will continue to be perceived to be in the public domain. In fact, the Council recognises that some parts of the development site are valuable, specifically in terms of ecology and education. Access to and egress from those areas should be protected and continue to be utilised, if at all possible.

2.9.3 Image and containment of the development works:

- The development site is a comparatively compact development area, within which a demolition process, in addition to a development/construction process, is to be effected simultaneously. The site can be unsightly and is potentially hazardous to visitors to the Country Park, due to the nature of the site and its particular development process.

- Additionally, the nature of the site, located as it is, at the heart of the Country Park, adjacent to the Visitor Centre is noticed on a daily basis by those who visit the Country Park and are familiar with it. Verbal and formal written complaints are made to Council staff, on a regular basis, by visitors both local and from afar, who are dismayed at the apparent lack of progress and the effect that the development works are having on their enjoyment of the Country Park and its facilities.
- The reputation of the Council has been severely damaged over the years as visitors assume that the Council is responsible for carrying out the development work.

2.10 Council officers appreciate that this is a most unusual development for a number of reasons, including:

- the nature and location of the development site;
- the extent, nature and availability of the surrounding and adjacent areas to which the public have access;
- the fact that a listed building is involved;
- the fact that the development is not conventional; and
- the fact that the day to day operations of the Country Park must be protected and enhanced for the current and future success of the Country Park

2.11 As a result, Council officers have recently adopted a pro-active, positive approach to work with the Developer, exercising a fresh spirit of goodwill and co-operation in a concerted attempt to resolve the outstanding issues affecting the development, in a holistic manner. To that end, as a result of negotiations with the Developer, a Minute of Agreement has been concluded between the Council, the Developer, the proprietor of the development site and Mr Singh, who is a director of the Developer and has been actively involved in the Development since the beginning.

2.12 The Minute of Agreement reflects the following terms:

- The Council will acquire the three areas of land outlined in red on the Plan;
- The Developer will construct the Proposed Road, to the Council's satisfaction;
- The Developer will repair the Loop Road to the Council's satisfaction;
- When appropriate (based on the timing of the construction of the dwelling houses) the Developer will apply for roads construction consent for the road serving the Development, the Main Access Road and the Loop Road and will construct/upgrade the Main Access Road and Loop Road to the Council's satisfaction;

- Thereupon, the Developer may apply to the Council to have the Main Access Road and Loop Road adopted; and
- In the event that the Developer wishes to divest itself of any part of the remaining development site, under exception of Eglinton Stables and the dwelling houses, the Developer shall offer the same to the Council first.

2.13 The Implications of the Minute of Agreement

2.13.1 The three areas of land to be transferred to the Council are surplus to the Developer's requirements. The footprint of the development site is thus reduced and access to the adjacent land belonging to the Council is restored, particularly those areas of interest to the Council from a sustainability and biodiversity perspective.

2.13.2 The Council is enabled:

- to establish and maintain the Development Bypass, which will benefit the development in that Country Park traffic will not require to travel through the development site once the development is completed. This will enhance the prospective saleability of the proposed dwelling houses, be more appealing to householders on Country Park event days and have the effect of protecting the privacy of the householders. The Council will be able to control the traffic on event days and improve its ability to maintain the adjacent areas efficiently and safely.
- to create the New Car Park, which will replace the former car park located within the development site;
- to establish the New Access Road, which will serve access to and egress from the buildings located to the rear of the Visitor Centre; and
- to acquire legal title to the Acquisition at nil cost, the Developer being relieved of its obligation to create the New Car Park. The Council will pay the Developer's legal fees, up to a maximum sum of £3,000, to ensure that the conveyancing process is effected properly and timeously.

2.13.3 The arrangements contained within the Minute of Agreement are a solution to some of the current outstanding issues affecting the development, which have caused a detrimental impact on the Council's management of the Country Park. The execution of the Minute of Agreement reflects the new spirit of co-operation and goodwill that now exists between the Council and the Developer. The Council will benefit from some certainty in terms of the much needed car parking provision and will have increased control over an increased land mass to the Country Park's advantage and purpose and indeed the maintenance thereof. Finally, access to and egress from the rear of the Visitor's Centre is assured and access to the Country Park generally will be improved with the creation of the Development Bypass, particularly on event days.

2.13.4 However, in order to restore the infrastructure of the Country Park to a useable and acceptable standard, the following works will in future be required:

- Construction of the New Car Park;
- Construction of the Development Bypass; and
- Construction of the New Access Road.

3. Proposals

3.1 It is proposed that Cabinet:

- notes the proposals to be contained within the Minute of Agreement, which enables the relevant areas of the Country Park to be acquired by the Council; and
- requests that officers bring back future reports to Cabinet identifying requirements for and the costs of future works, which may include the construction of the New Car Park, the Development Bypass and the New Access Road, to restore the Country Park to a safe, efficient and welcoming environment for visitors.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Human Resource Implications

4.2 There are no human resources implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

4.3 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

Equality Implications

4.4 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications

4.5 The Country Park and its Rangers have experienced significant constraints on service delivery during the period of the development. The acquisition of areas of significant interest in terms of biodiversity, together with improvements to the visual environment of the Country Park, will reinstate improved environmental benefits to North Ayrshire.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The proposals contained within the report will assist in achieving the following SOA outcomes:
- 3a "opportunities for lifelong learning have increased";
 - 4a "levels of educational attainment and achievement have improved";
 - 4b "more young people are leaving school for positive destinations";
 - 5a "opportunities to support the positive development of young children have increased";
 - 6b "health inequalities have reduced";
 - 6e "people are more active more often";
 - 11a "levels of voluntary actions and community involvement have increased";
 - 11b "partnership working between the public, community and voluntary sector has improved.
 - 12 "We value and enjoy our built and natural environment and protect it and enhance it for future generations."

5. Consultations

- 5.1 Consultations have taken place between the Developer and Education and Skills, Legal, Planning, Roads, Environment and Related Services, the Health and Safety Executive and with the Kilwinning Area Committee.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The terms of the Minute of Agreement and the proposed investment to improve the Country Park infrastructure will ensure ongoing benefits to residents of North Ayrshire and will increase visitor numbers and expenditure from out with the local authority area. It is recommended that Cabinet notes the information contained within this Report, in particular, the terms of the Minute of Agreement, and remits Council officers to bring a future report to Cabinet in relation to the works required to upgrade the relevant parking and roads infrastructure



CAROL KIRK
Corporate Director (Education and Skills)

Reference : AS/JN

For further information please contact Audrey Sutton, Head of Community and Culture on telephone number 01294 324414

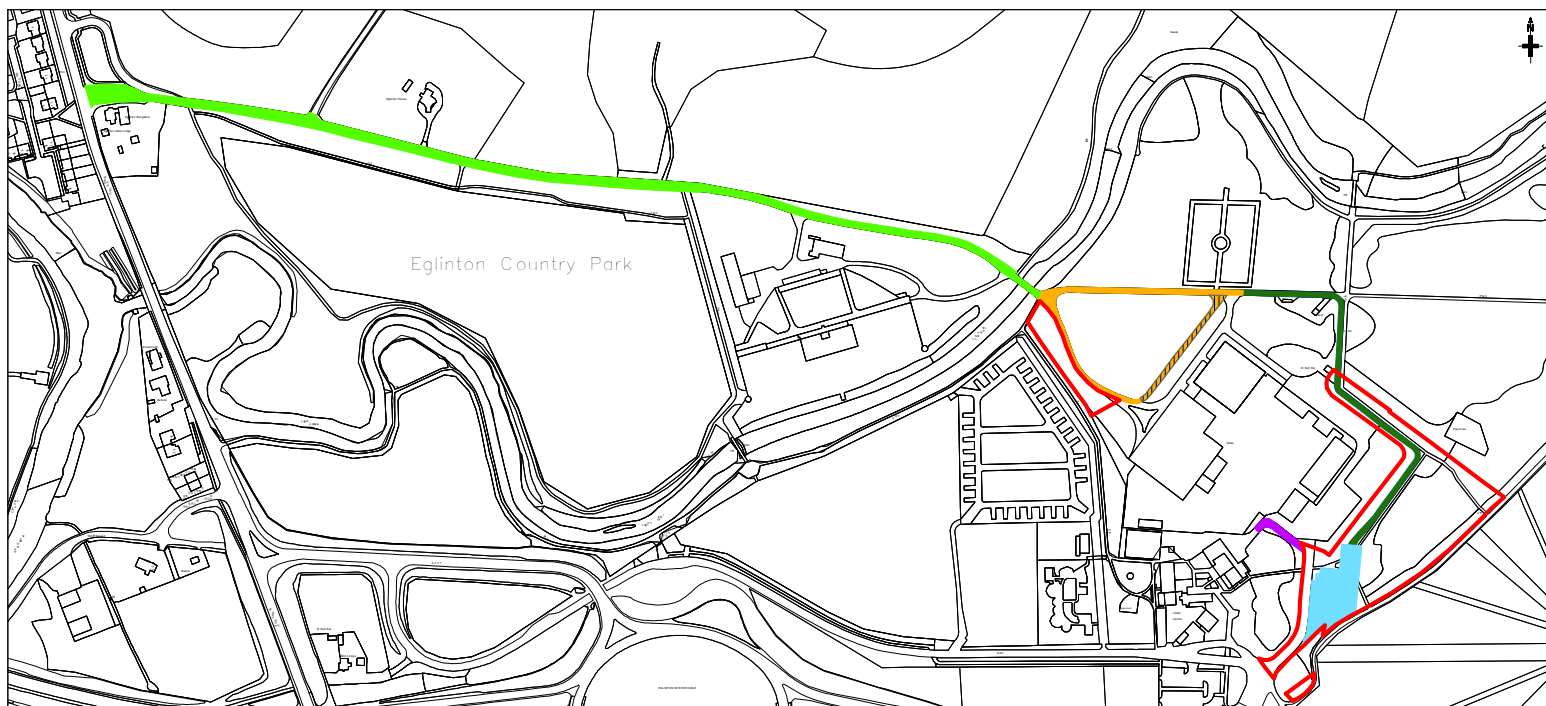
Background Papers

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NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

FINANCE & PROPERTY



Legend

-  Acquisition
-  Main Access Road
-  Proposed Road
-  Loop Road
-  New Car Park
-  Development Bypass
-  New Access Road

Proposals For Development At Eglinton Park, Kilwinning

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The above Particulars are believed to be correct, but are supplied for information only and no reliance should be placed thereon. They are not deemed to form any part of a contract which may be entered into. North Ayrshire Council does not bind itself to accept the higher rate or offer and in supplying these Particulars is not issuing instructions and will not, therefore, bear liability for Agent's or other fees.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 10

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Revenue Budget 2013/14 : Budgetary Control Statement to 31 July 2013**

Purpose: To advise the Cabinet of the revenue budgetary control position for the Council at 31 July 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees to (a) note the information and financial projections outlined in the report; (b) note the action being taken by Social Services and Health to reduce the current projected overspend and (c) approve the virements detailed in Appendix 9.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Council's General Fund and Housing Revenue budgets for 2013/14 were approved at a special meeting of the Council held on 30 January 2013.
- 1.2 As part of the monitoring procedures to keep the Cabinet informed of the financial performance of the Council, budgetary control reports are presented on a regular basis. This is the first report for 2013/14 and covers the period to the end of July 2013 (Period 4). Future reports for 2013/14 will inform Members of the financial situation at the end of September, November, January and March. Projections of the year-end position have been made which, at this early stage in the financial year, are based on limited financial data. As the year progresses these projections should become more robust.

2. Current Position

General Fund

- 2.1 The unaudited annual accounts for 2012/13 currently reflect a General Fund uncommitted balance of £6.029m at 31 March 2013, equivalent to 1.9% of the net revenue budget.
- 2.2 The Council has set a break-even budget for 2013/14. In addition to the budget approved on 30 January 2013 ear-marked funds of £5.522m have been carried forward from 2012/13 for service expenditure in 2013/14 which will be reflected in the figures within the 2013/14 budgetary control reports.

- 2.3 Current financial projections indicate that a net in-year surplus of £0.070m is anticipated for the year to 31 March 2014.

Commentary on Significant General Services Variances

- 2.4 A number of over and underspends across Council services contributes to the overall projected financial position.
- 2.5 A brief explanation of Services' major variances is outlined below, with further details in the attached appendices.
- 2.6 In the Chief Executive's Service (Appendix 1), an underspend of £0.052m is anticipated, which is largely due to projected savings in employee costs as a result of a vacant post and a secondment within the Change Programme Team.
- 2.7 Within Finance and Corporate Support (Appendix 2), there is a net projected underspend of £0.095m which is due to a number of factors. Within Property Management & Investment an overspend of £0.085m is anticipated in relation to the purchase of Carbon Allowances as a result of recent changes in the scheme which increased the levels of energy consumption applicable to the allowances. Within Business Support there is currently a projected overspend of £0.010m in Cunninghame House postage costs. These overspends are more than offset, however, by anticipated underspends in Human Resources & Organisational Development (£0.064m) and Revenues & Benefits (£0.126m) due to savings accruing from vacant posts and the implementation of revised structures.
- 2.8 Within Education & Skills (Appendix 3), an underspend of £0.073m is anticipated. This projection is net of the 2013/14 Teachers' Refresh savings of £0.457m which, in line with previous approvals, will be transferred to the Change Fund. There are major variances in two sectors contributing to the net underspend. Within Additional Support Needs, an overspend of £0.286m is projected in residential school fees based on the number of children who are currently in care. Within Cultural & Community an underspend of £0.402m is projected of which £0.226m is as a result of early achievement of savings from the review of Community Development. In addition, savings of £0.179m have accrued from amended work patterns and reduced overtime costs in Community Facilities.
- 2.9 For Social Services & Health, current projections indicate an overspend of £3.292m at 31 March 2014. There are a number of over and underspends which contribute to this net overspend. A detailed commentary on this can be found in Appendix 4.

- 2.9.1 Within Children's services social work has a plan in place to reduce the 2012/13 overspend on residential schools of £0.921m to achieve a break even position.
- 2.9.2 The most significant projected overspend is within Older People's services (£3.011m), the majority of which is due to purchased Care at Home (£1.430m); in-house Care at Home staff costs are projected to overspend by £0.790m and payments to Care Homes are expected to overspend by £0.619m.
- 2.9.3 Independent Services is projecting a total overspend of £1.063m due to residential placements (£0.111m), community packages (£0.490m) and direct payments (£0.458m).
- 2.9.4 Further overspends of £0.952m are anticipated within Learning Disabilities from residential placements (£0.623m), community packages (£0.444m) and direct payments (£0.125m).
- 2.9.5 The above overspends have been partially offset by underspends. In Management & Support, an underspend of £0.355m is anticipated in employee costs. Children & Families is projecting an underspend of £0.627m, £0.371m in employee costs and £0.310m in adoption and kinship payments. Savings of £0.343m are projected in Mental Health Needs of which Residential Placements (£0.142m) and Community Packages (£0.234m) are the main factors. Addiction Services is projecting an underspend of £0.135m, of which £0.181m is due to employee costs with a partial offset of £0.046m in property costs. The main reason for the underspend of £0.274m in Other Housing is the early realisation of 2014/15 savings in relation to the redesign of the Community Warden service of £0.197m.
- 2.9.6 A review of the overall Social Services & Health budget has identified several areas of pressure with proposals to vire from budgets which have capacity. These virements are detailed in Appendix 9 for members' approval.
- 2.9.7 Social services are taking steps to deliver 2013/14 savings and reduce the current projected overspend, with a Cabinet report being submitted on 29th October 2013. Regular meetings have been scheduled with the Chief Executive to monitor progress in reducing the projected overspend.

- 2.10 Within Development & Environment (Appendix 5) an underspend of £1.621m is anticipated. Economic Development is projecting an underspend of £1.081m which is due to the delay in the graduate programme being fully implemented and uncommitted funds in respect of the economic development and regeneration strategy. In addition, Protective Services are projecting an underspend of £0.121m from savings accrued in the costs of the Local Development Plan. Within Environment, overall savings of £0.419m are anticipated, primarily in Waste Services (£0.311m). Employee costs savings of £0.143m are anticipated due to vacancies in Refuse Collection & Disposal Sites. Additional savings are anticipated in Landfill Tax as a result of reduced waste arisings (£0.055m) and Organic Waste disposal (£0.045m).
- 2.11 The projected underspend for Building Services (Appendix 6) of £0.694m is primarily due to a) savings in employee costs of £0.118m due to vacant posts at the start of the year and b) savings of £0.482m in payments to other bodies as a result of the planned reduction in the use of sub-contractors of £0.553m which has been partially offset by an increase in expenditure on agency workers of £0.071m. In addition, the service has generated savings of £0.228m relating to business plan efficiencies. It should be noted, however, that although there is only a small overall variance in income of £0.013m there are significant fluctuations within the different categories of repairs; within response repairs a projected shortfall of £1.463m as a result of changes in processes and revised rates for this category of repair, offset by higher than budgeted income from other categories of work, principally additional work from General Services Property Maintenance (£0.610m), void houses (£0.376m) and planned maintenance (£0.150m). Further detail can be found in Appendix 6.
- 2.12 Corporate Items (Appendix 7) relates to Joint Board requisitions, Changing Childrens Services Fund, pension costs and other corporate items. At present there are no variances projected.
- 2.13 Savings of £0.827m are anticipated in Loan Charges as a result of slippage in the capital programme in recent years, combined with external borrowing falling below anticipated levels due to the short-term use of cash balances currently held by the Council. There has been no long term borrowing undertaken so far in 2013/14 due to PWLB interest rates currently sitting at high levels compared with the low rates of return available on investments. If the policy of no borrowing was to be continue to the end of the financial year then the savings in loan charges would increase.

- 2.14 The Council has budgeted for income from Council Tax of £57.643m in 2013/14, based on an estimated overall 96.5% collection level, and income from Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) of £36.943m. Collection levels for Council Tax show in-year collection of 37.9% to the end of July, which is 0.2% lower than in 2012/13 level. This reduction is mainly caused by the delay in the Benefit Service processing benefit claims as a result of the diversion of resources to Welfare Reform. The service is, however, working to reduce the backlog in claims and this will, in turn, improve the collection figures. Benchmarking with other authorities is also being used to identify best practice and ways to improve the collection level up to the target of 94.1%, from 93.5% achieved in 2012/13. In respect of NDR, the collection level is 30.43% which is approximately 1.16% above the 2012/13 level. The service is on track to achieve the annual collection rate of 96.04% which contributes to the national NDR pool.
- 2.15 Requests for budget transfers, or virements, have been identified since the start of the financial year. As per the Council's Codes of Financial Practice, all such transfers require to be authorised by the appropriate Corporate Director and the Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support). Where the amount transferred from a budget is over £50,000 (either as a single transfer or the sum of transfers within a financial year) or where the transfer of any amount would affect existing Council policy the approval of the Cabinet is required. A schedule of the virements requested by Services above the £50,000 threshold is attached at Appendix 9 for Members' consideration and approval.
- 2.16 An analysis of the year end General Services revenue projections as at the end of July 2013 is shown in the undernoted table:

	Annual Budget	Projection to 31	Projected
	<u>£000</u>	<u>March 2014</u>	<u>Variance for year</u>
		<u>£000</u>	<u>£000</u>
<u>Service Expenditure</u>		<u>(Fav)/Adv</u>	<u>(Fav)/Adv</u>
Chief Executive	4,625	4,573	(52)
Finance & Corporate Support	36,887	36,792	(95)
Education and Skills	121,062	120,989	(73)
Social Services and Health	85,519	88,811	3,292
Development & Environment	44,521	42,900	(1,621)
Building Services	(420)	(1,114)	(694)
Other Corporate Services	8,764	8,764	-
Balance for Services	300,958	301,715	757
Loan Charges etc	22,740	21,913	(827)
Contribution to Capital Fund	2,137	2,137	-
Total Planned Expenditure	325,835	325,765	(70)
<u>Planned Income</u>			
AEF	(262,937)	(262,937)	-
Council Tax and former Community Charge	(57,673)	(57,673)	-
Use of Change Fund	(533)	(533)	-
Use of Earmarked Funds	(4,692)	(4,692)	-
Total Planned Income	(325,835)	(325,835)	-
Net Expenditure/(Income)	-	(70)	(70)

Housing Revenue Account

- 2.17 The position on the Housing Revenue Account at the end of July 2013 is outlined in the table below, with further details provided in Appendix 8:

	<u>Annual Budget £000</u>	<u>Projection to 31 March 2014 £000</u>	<u>Projected Variance for Year £000</u>
		<u>(Fav)/Adv</u>	<u>(Fav)/Adv</u>
Supervision and Management	7,906	7,598	(308)
Repairs and Maintenance	26,630	25,843	(787)
Short Stay Hostel	(74)	(79)	(5)
Homelessness	(49)	(118)	(69)
Loan Charges	8,306	8,212	(94)
Rental Income	(42,719)	(42,435)	284
Balance on Year's Activities	-	(979)	(979)

- 2.18 The Housing Revenue Account budgeted for a break-even position in 2013/14 with a projected underspend of £0.979m currently projected. The underspend is primarily due to a) anticipated savings of £0.184m in employee costs due to staff vacancies and b) a net underspend in repairs to Council housing stock of £0.795m. A considerable saving of £1.463m is anticipated in response repairs which, as indicated in paragraph 2.11 above, has been achieved through improved processes and revised rates for this category of repair. This is partially offset by predicted overspends in repairs to empty houses and house adaptations of £0.188m and £0.100m respectively. There is also an unbudgeted cost of £0.180m in relation to the safety of gas meters.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to (a) note the information and financial projections outlined in the report; (b) note the action being taken by Social Services and Health to reduce the current projected overspend and (c) approve the virements detailed in Appendix 9.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The net projection for the year as at 31 July 2013 for General Services is a surplus for the year of £0.070m.
- 4.2 The net projection for the year on the Housing Revenue Account is a surplus for the year of £0.979m which results in a projected balance on the Housing Revenue Account at 31 March 2014 of £6.016m.

- 4.3 The position for both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account revenue budgets will continue to be monitored closely for the remainder of the financial year.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.4 There are no human resource implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.5 There are no legal implications.

Equality Implications

- 4.6 There are no equality implications.

Environmental Implications

- 4.7 There are no environmental implications.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.8 This budget monitoring report directly supports local outcome 15b - "Public Services are more efficient and effective" within the Single Outcome Agreement 2009/12.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 All budget holders have been consulted as part of the budgetary control process and have approved the projected variances contained in this report.

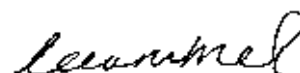
6. Conclusion

General Services

- 6.1 Current financial projections indicate that a net in-year surplus of £0.070m is anticipated for the year to 31 March 2014.

Housing Revenue Account

- 6.2 Current financial projections indicate that a net in-year surplus of £0.979m is anticipated for the year to 31 March 2014.



LAURA FRIEL

Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support)

Reference :

For further information please contact Hazel Hair, Senior Manager (Financial Management) on telephone number 01294 324548

Background Papers

0

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31ST JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	Note No
	£000	£000	£000	
Democratic & Administration Services				
Legal	749	749	-	
Policy, Performance & Community Planning	1,180	1,171	(9)	
Communications	395	395	-	
Committee & Member Services	1,506	1,503	(3)	
Change Programme	697	657	(40)	1
Civil Contingencies	98	98	-	
Totals	4,625	4,573	(52)	

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	3,717	3,668	(49)
Property Costs	3	3	-
Supplies and Services	167	167	-
Transport and Plant Costs	14	14	-
Administration Costs	872	872	-
Other Agencies & Bodies	785	783	(2)
Other Expenditure	59	59	-
Capital Financing	-	-	-
Gross Expenditure	5,617	5,566	(51)
Income	(992)	(993)	(1)
Net Expenditure	4,625	4,573	(52)

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1 Change Programme Team - £0.040m underspent

There is a projected underspend of £0.040m in Employee Costs due to a vacancy and a secondment within the Change Programme Team.

FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31ST JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	Note No
	£000	£000	£000	
Finance & Property				
Head of Service / Directorate	(116)	(116)	-	
Financial Management	2,032	2,032	-	
Revenues & Benefits	12,212	12,086	(126)	1
Audit & Risk	1,915	1,915	-	
Business Support	1,317	1,327	10	2
Corporate Procurement	508	508	-	
Property Management & Investment	1,811	1,896	85	3
Housing Investment	(801)	(801)	-	
Property Running Costs	7,804	7,804	-	
Property Maintenance	4,906	4,906	-	
HR & Organisational Development				
Human Resources	2,285	2,221	(64)	4
ICT	1,922	1,922	-	
Customer Services & Registration	1,092	1,092	-	
		-		
Totals	36,887	36,792	(95)	

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	16,598	16,408	(190)
Property Costs	11,250	11,250	-
Supplies and Services	1,080	1,083	3
Transport and Plant Costs	422	422	-
Administration Costs	1,711	1,721	10
Other Agencies & Bodies	6,750	6,832	82
Transfer Payments	60,634	60,634	-
Other Expenditure	26	26	-
Capital Financing	-	-	-
Gross Expenditure	98,471	98,376	(95)
Income	(61,584)	(61,584)	-
Net Expenditure	36,887	36,792	(95)

FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1 Revenues & Benefits - £0.126m underspent

This underspend results from a restructure within the Benefits team. Of this, £0.077m was approved on 30 January 2013 as a 2014/15 saving. The remaining underspend will be offered as a new proposal for 2014/15.

2 Business Support - £0.010m overspent

The adverse projection of £0.010m relates to an expected overspend in corporate postage costs, which is reflective of the outturn for 2012/13. The volume of mail handled in Cunninghame House alone for the period April-June 2013 increased by 24% in comparison to the same period last year. There are measures that can be taken regarding good practice promotion in order to mitigate further overspends. This will be progressed by Business Support.

3 Property Management & Investment - £0.085m overspent

The projected overspend of £0.085m relates to the purchase of Carbon Allowances. This can be attributed to recent changes in the Carbon Allowances scheme that widened the scope of relevant energy consumption used in the calculation of allowances required.

4 Human Resources - £0.064m underspent

The projected underspend of £0.064m arises within employee costs and relates to vacant posts and the implementation of the new management structure.

EDUCATION & SKILLS
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31 JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	Note No
	£000	£000	£000	
Early Years Education	8,111	8,152	41	1
Primary Education	40,384	40,384	-	2
Secondary Education	49,892	49,892	-	3
Additional Support Needs	6,798	7,086	288	4
Education - Other	3,851	3,851	-	5
Cultural & Community	8,602	8,200	(402)	6
Leisure Trust	3,424	3,424	-	
Total	121,062	120,989	(73)	

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	87,510	87,061	(449)
Property Costs	694	737	43
Supplies and Services	15,470	15,431	(39)
Transport and Plant Costs	307	309	2
Administration Costs	1,228	1,232	4
Other Agencies & Bodies	19,725	20,084	359
Transfer Payments	851	851	-
Gross Expenditure	125,784	125,704	(80)
Income	(4,722)	(4,715)	7
Net Expenditure	121,062	120,989	(73)

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1. EARLY YEARS EDUCATION - £0.041m overspend

Payments to childminders is expected to overspend by £0.040m due to a higher than anticipated demand for places. This is linked to the increase in the number of vulnerable children requiring support.

EDUCATION & SKILLS

BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

2. PRIMARY EDUCATION

Commercial Refuse Collection is expected to overspend by £0.026m due to actual charges being higher than originally estimated. Expenditure on Software licences will be underspent by £0.020m due to licences being secured at lower cost than anticipated, which will be used to meet the additional cost of Wi-Fi licences for schools.

Cabinet approval is required for grant funding from Scottish Government for the 1+2 languages commitment of £0.109m.

3. SECONDARY EDUCATION

There are estimated savings of £0.011m in respect of PPP Contract Deductions. Commercial Refuse Collection is expected to overspend by £0.014m due to actual charges being higher than originally estimated.

4. ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS (ASN) - £0.288m overspend

Based on the number of children currently in care, the ASN residential and day placement fees are currently showing an anticipated overspend of £0.286m.

5. EDUCATION - OTHER

Cabinet approval is required for grant funding of a) £0.129m from the Scottish Government in respect of Opportunities for All and b) £0.212m from Creative Scotland in respect of the Youth Music Initiative.

6. CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY - £0.402m underspend

The majority of the underspends are in employee costs. £0.179m has accrued from over-achieved savings as a result of amended work patterns and reduced overtime costs in Community Facilities. £0.226m underspend in Community Development is as a result of early achievement of anticipated savings from the Community Development Review. This is offset by a £0.025m payment to Kilwinning Sport Club due to contractor/arbitration issues.

SOCIAL SERVICES
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31 JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	Note No
	£000	£000	£000	
Management & Support	6,026	5,671	(355)	1
Children and Families	23,052	22,425	(627)	2
Older People's Services	31,312	34,323	3,011	3
Independent Services	4,152	5,215	1,063	4
Learning Disabilities	10,621	11,573	952	5
Mental Health Needs	2,433	2,090	(343)	6
Criminal Justice	(16)	(16)	-	
Addiction Services	750	615	(135)	7
Change	177	177	-	
Other Housing	7,012	6,738	(274)	8
Totals	85,519	88,811	3,292	

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	41,712	40,816	(896)
Property Costs	432	589	157
Supplies and Services	1,672	1,928	256
Transport and Plant Costs	575	599	24
Administration Costs	1,392	1,353	(39)
Other Agencies & Bodies	56,815	59,860	3,045
Transfer Payments	1,038	1,948	910
Other Expenditure	72	47	(25)
Capital Financing	-	-	-
Gross Expenditure	103,708	107,140	3,432
Income	(18,189)	(18,329)	(140)
Net Expenditure	85,519	88,811	3,292

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1.MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT & SERVICE STRATEGY - £0.355m underspend

Employee Costs - (£0.354m) this is reflective of historic trends.

2. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - £0.627m underspend

Employee cost underspend (£0.371m) and throughcare overspend around care leaver rents and other payments supporting 29 service users - £0.198m - reflect historic spend patterns.

Residential Schools projected costs to be equal to budget of £3.501m - currently 27 placed in schools and 9 receiving Community Supports. Expected end dates for placements have been indicated and applied to projections. This position represents a significant turnaround from the previous financial year - an overspend of £0.921m. The service's strategy is to reduce the number of young people in residential schools which will offer better outcomes for them, as well as ensuring the costs of the supports for young people can be maintained within the available resources. The projection assumes no new placements in 2013/14. Should the indicated end dates slip, the additional cost of the current placements to the end of this financial year would represent an overspend of £0.551m.

Remand: Overspend of £0.071m - currently one placement. A virement of £0.100m is requested in Appendix 9 to provide a budget for remand placements on an on-going basis.

Fostering and fostering respite underspends - (£0.044m) and (£0.079m). There are currently 150 fostering placements, 24 in private fostering, 40 fostering xtra and 86 fostering. This is reflective of the increasing number of looked after children within North Ayrshire. At end of 2012/13 an overall underspend in fostering of (£0.429m) was reported. This reduction of £0.306m in the projection is reflective of the full year cost of new placements approved within 12/13 and the expected cost of those already approved this financial year.

Adoption underspend (£0.207m) - currently 58 placements, with one future placement known for later in the year. It is recognised by the service that investment approved around the aspiration of increased adoptive placements has been greater than actual need and a reallocation of these resources to current pressure areas is required.

Kinship payments underspend (£0.103m) - currently 236 placements. Kinship placements continue to grow within North Ayrshire and have increased by 11 in this financial year to end July. Additional investment of £0.161m was approved as part of the 13/14 budget process.

The overall projected overspend around care packages for Children with Disabilities totals £0.186m:

Care Packages for Children with Disabilities - £0.115m supporting 41 service users.

Direct Payments for Children with Disabilities - £0.150m - currently 27 in payment.

Impaact Carers (CwD) underspend (£0.079m). There are currently four new impaact carer applications in progress. The management information around Children with Disabilities is currently being developed to ensure robust financial projections are available going forward.

3. OLDER PEOPLE'S SERVICES - £3.011m overspend

Care at Home provided staff costs - £0.790m overspend in staffing (including overtime). Overspend in 12/13 was £0.634m.

Care at Home purchased - £1.430m overspend representing costs of £5.684m. Costs in 12/13 were £5.163m. Various virements have been requested which will offset this overspend, in part, this financial year. The underlying management information around Care at Home is still being developed to provide robust financial projections, as such this current projection is based on the average costs over the last four weeks projected forward to the end of the financial year.

Direct Payments - £0.309m - currently 59 service users. Overspend in 12/13 was £0.156m which represented packages for 31 service users.

The total cost of community supports for older people grew by 13% from 2011/12 to 2012/13. The 2012/13 expenditure was supported by £0.833m of non-recurring NHS change fund monies.

Other staffing underspend - (£0.275m)

David White Centre - (£0.185m) - early achievement of future year savings. Budget will temporarily move to Care at Home for this financial year only.

Care Homes - £0.619m - there are currently have 887 placed and 25 with funding agreed, total 912. Currently 70% of all service users in a residential setting are receiving Nursing Care. The estimated cost of the 25 placements with funding agreed included in the the projected overspend is £0.312m.

Telecare Equipment - £0.170m - projection based on current year cost to date and prior year spends. The requirement for telecare equipment is increasing as service users continue to be enabled to remain as independent as possible in their own communities.

Standby Service - £0.057m - budget is insufficient given North Ayrshire's level of demand for the service. It is hoped through negotiation with the host authority that this cost could reduce, however the outcome of those discussions is as yet unknown. The service user group with most need for this service is childcare therefore a virement is requested to realign this budget appropriately.

Over-recovery of income (£0.123m) - mainly through property charging orders.

4. INDEPENDENT SERVICES - £1.063m overspend

Projections here relate to:

Residential Placements - £0.111m

Community Packages - £0.490m

Direct Payments - £0.458m

There are currently 156 service users in receipt of these packages a net increase of 5 since 1st April 2013. Savings of £0.273m were offered from ILS care package budgets for 13/14. Savings achieved to date total £0.055m however, the net cost of new packages and increases to current packages following review totals £0.145m. There is therefore an issue around the achieving the balance of the savings given the current increases in demand.

Packages for service users with Alcohol Related Brain Disorders were transferred to ILS from 1st April 2013. Budget of £0.106m transferred however the cost of these packages in 12/13 totalled £0.188m.

A saving of £0.050m was offered in relation the Pan-Ayrshire Sensory Impairment Service. This will not be achieved until 2014/15.

5. LEARNING DISABILITIES - £0.952m overspend

Employee Costs - (£0.146m)

Short Break Service - (£0.049m) now discontinued

Respite - (0.067m)

Care package costs

Residential Placements - £0.623m

Community Packages - £0.444m

Direct Payments - £0.125m

There are currently 243 service users in receipt of these packages a net increase of 3 since 1st April 2013. Savings of £0.411m were offered from LD care package budgets for 13/14. Savings achieved to date total (£0.243m) however the cost of new packages and increases to current packages following review totals £0.351m.

6. MENTAL HEALTH - £0.343m underspend

Residential Placements - (£0.142m)

Community Packages - (£0.234m)

Direct Payments - £0.028m

There are currently 107 service users in receipt of these packages a net decrease of 3 since 1st April 2013. Savings achieved to date total (£0.088m) and the cost of new packages and increases to current packages totals £0.029m.

Tendering for preventative services - (£0.075m), This is slippage in the new Service Development Funding in relation to a delay in the tendering process.

A virement of £0.200m is requested in appendix 9.

7. ADDICTIONS - £0.135m underspend

Underspend in employee costs (£0.181m)

Offset by property costs £0.046m - non - recurring rental and dilapidation costs

8. HOUSING - £0.274m underspend

The main reason for the projected underspend against the Housing budget is the early realisation of 2014/15 savings in relation to the redesign of the Community Warden service (£0.197m), combined with efficiency savings identified through a review of the budget (£0.039m) and savings against provider contracts (£0.027m).

9. ADDITIONAL COMMENTARY

Following a review of current budgets and identified areas of pressures, the following virements have been agreed. These are detailed on Appendix 9 for member approval.

Temporary reduction in employee cost budgets £0.400m

Permanent reduction in mental health care package budgets £0.200m

Permanent reduction in adoption budget £0.140m

Temporary reduction in adoption budget £0.030m

Temporary reduction in impact respite budget £0.055m

Temporary reduction in kinship budget £0.075m

Increase in care package budget for service users with Learning Disabilities £0.310m

Increase in care package budgets for service users with Physical Disabilities £0.213m

Additional temporary staffing to assist with improving management information within care at home £0.075m

Increase in care package budget for Children with Disabilities £0.310m

The pressure monies of £0.700m approved for Older People's services have been allocated to Care at Home, with £0.060m set aside for consultancy in this year only around Care Home placements and the best outcomes for service users.

As part of the Social Services change programme and in relation to the new model of service delivery, 13 posts will be deleted in line with the current three year savings target of £0.355m during the course of this financial year.

10. COMMENTARY ON CHANGES TO APPROVED BUDGET

Since the initial approved budget, the Social Services budgets have been amended to take into account the following:

£4.103m Section 27 Criminal Justice Grant allocation approved by SWSCJA Board.

£0.786m Grant from Scottish Government via NHS Ayrshire and Arran re Alcohol and Drug Projects. Includes carry forward of £0.155m carry forward from 12/13.

£0.758m NHS Change Fund Allocation for 13/14.

DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31 JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	Note No
	£000	£000	£000	
Directorate	224	224	-	1
Development Planning				
Management and Admin	96	96	-	
Roads	7,023	7,023	-	1
Protective Services	2,894	2,773	(121)	1
Economic Development	10,435	9,354	(1,081)	1
Environment				
Management and Admin	798	774	(24)	
Internal Transport	8,575	8,575	-	2
Streetscene	5,246	5,219	(27)	2
Waste Services	6,684	6,373	(311)	2
Facilities Management	2,546	2,489	(57)	2
	44,521	42,900	(1,621)	

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	28,997	28,460	(537)
Property Costs	737	733	(4)
Supplies and Services	6,992	7,028	36
Transport and Plant Costs	8,665	8,687	22
Administration Costs	1,593	1,602	9
Other Agencies & Bodies	19,885	18,789	(1,096)
Other Expenditure	137	97	(40)
Transfer Payments	-	-	-
Capital Financing	11	11	-
Gross Expenditure	67,017	65,407	(1,610)
Income	(22,496)	(22,507)	(11)
Net Expenditure	44,521	42,900	(1,621)

DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1 Development Planning

Roads

There are currently no major projected variances within Roads. The service has, however, received additional grant funding to support the roads network totalling £1.597m from SPT, Scotrail and the Forestry Commission. Further details of the grants can be found in Appendix 9.

Protective Services - £0.121m underspent

An underspend of £0.130m has been identified relating to a non recurring resource for the Local Development Plan. This is a non-recurring resource and will be removed from the base budget in 13/14.

Economic Development - £1.081m underspent

The Service is projecting an underspend of £1.081m which in part is due to the significant budget carry forwards from previous years. This includes a £0.400m projected underspend within the graduate programme which has only started this year and is taking time to develop. There are also currently uncommitted funds of £0.571m within the ED+R strategy where projects remain to be identified.

2 Environment

Streetscene Strategy - £0.027m underspend

The projected underspend is mainly attributable to savings in employee costs.

Transport

There are no major variances currently anticipated.

Facilities Management - £0.057m underspend

There is a projected underspend within Cleaning of £0.057m which is made up of projected £0.095m underspend in relation to janatorial employee costs and offset by a projected reduction in overtime income of £0.023m

Waste Management - £0.311m underspend

In Refuse Collection there are further projected part-year employee savings of £0.100m due to vacancies which will be filled during the implementation of the new working patterns. However this projection is dependent on there being no additional resource requirements during the implementation of the new working patterns.

In Disposal Sites there are projected employee savings of £0.043m due to vacancies. Also revised landfill site tonnages projections will result in an underspend of £0.055m in Landfill tax. There is also a projected saving of £0.045m in Organic Waste disposal contract based on revised green and food waste arisings. These revised figures have been reflected in a reduction in the budget pressure submissions for future years.

BUILDING SERVICES
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31 JULY 2013

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	
	£000	£000	£000	
Employee Costs	9,123	9,005	(118)	1
Property Costs	414	414	-	
Supplies and Services	5,527	5,525	(2)	
Transport and Plant Costs	1,211	1,334	123	2
Administration Costs	1,002	1,002	-	
Other Agencies & Bodies	1,566	1,084	(482)	3
Other Expenditure	228	-	(228)	4
Capital Financing	577	577	-	
Gross Expenditure	19,648	18,941	(707)	
Income from :-				
Response	(5,033)	(3,570)	1,463	
Voids	(2,478)	(2,865)	(387)	
Planned	(1,580)	(1,797)	(217)	
Non-Housing	(1,211)	(1,957)	(746)	
Projects	(8,080)	(8,080)	-	
Aids & Adaptations	(1,116)	(1,216)	(100)	
Other	(570)	(570)	-	
Gross Income	(20,068)	(20,055)	13	5
Net Expenditure	(420)	(1,114)	(694)	

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1 The projected saving in Employee Costs is based on the number of vacant posts.

2 Within Transport & Plant Costs, the anticipated recharge from the Transport Hub is in excess of the current budget. The projected out-turn reflects the 2012/13 outturn position.

3 There is a projected saving within Other Agencies & Bodies primarily as a result of a reduction of £0.553m in the predicted use of subcontractors. This is due to the implementation of the 2013/14 Building Services Business Plan Strategy which focuses on the reduced use of sub-contractors. The projected reduction is, however, dependent on the type of work received by Building Services and may vary significantly should the type of work change. This underspend is partially offset by an overspend of £0.071m in employment of agency workers.

4 The projected saving of £0.228m against Other Expenditure relates to the achievement of the Service's Business Plan efficiencies.

5. The Service has various income streams with the following significant budget variances anticipated:-

		Adv/(Fav)
Income from Other NAC Departments		(0.136)
Housing Maintenance CPM		(0.150)
Voids		(0.376)
Aids & Adaptations		(0.100)
Estate Based Projects		(0.050)
Recharge to Property Management		(0.610)
		<u>(1.422)</u>
Response Repairs		
Emergency and Urgent repairs	0.174	
Routine Repairs	0.951	
Timber Treatment	0.250	
Right to Repair	0.088	1.463
		<u>0.041</u>

It should be noted that the response repairs projections above is an extrapolation based on current levels of jobs raised and current average job costs, this projection may vary significantly if demand increases or decreases over the year compared with previous years.

OTHER CORPORATE ITEMS
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31ST JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Strathclyde Passenger Transport	2,417	2,417	-
SPT - Concessionary Fares	283	283	-
Ayrshire Joint Valuation Board	808	808	-
Changing Childrens Services Fund	516	516	-
Central Telephones	89	89	-
Cash in Transit	51	51	-
External Audit Fees	304	304	-
Pension Costs	1,686	1,686	-
Provision for Severance Costs	1,100	1,100	-
Corporate Pressures	1,510	1,510	-
Totals	8,764	8,764	-

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

There are no major projected variances.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

REPORT FOR THE FOUR MONTHS ENDED 31 JULY 2013

Objective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)	Note No
	£000	£000	£000	
Supervision and Management	7,906	7,598	(308)	1
Repairs and Maintenance	26,630	25,843	(787)	2
Short Stay Hostel	(74)	(79)	(5)	
Homelessness	(49)	(118)	(69)	3
Loan Charges	8,306	8,212	(94)	4
Rental Income	(42,719)	(42,435)	284	5
Totals	0	(979)	(979)	6

Subjective Summary	Annual Budget	Projected Year End Outturn	Projected Annual Variance Adverse or (Favourable)
	£000	£000	£000
Employee Costs	6,592	6,289	(303)
Property Costs	18,723	17,938	(785)
Supplies and Services	302	252	(50)
Transport and Plant Costs	111	100	(11)
Administration Costs	1,522	1,503	(19)
Other Agencies & Bodies	1,637	1,588	(49)
Transfer Payments	200	200	0
Other Expenditure	1,211	1,207	(4)
Capital Financing	16,864	16,770	(94)
Gross Expenditure	47,162	45,847	(1,315)
Income	(47,162)	(46,826)	336
Net Expenditure for year	0	(979)	(979)

EXPLANATION OF MAJOR PROJECTED VARIANCES

1. SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT - £0.308m underspent

The main factors contributing to the projected underspend are as follows:

	£000	
Staff vacancies	(184)	The budget for 2014/15 will be amended to reflect this underspend
Recharges from Other Services	(73)	
Software & Computer Equipment	(42)	
	<u>(299)</u>	

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT
BUDGETARY CONTROL 2013/14

2. REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE - £0.787m underspent

The main elements included within the projection are as follows:

	<u>£000</u>	
Response Repairs	(1,463)	Savings achieved through improved processes and revised rates for this category of repairs.
Void Repairs	388	Due to an increase in empty house numbers
Adaptations to council houses	100	As a result of increased pressure on this budget through referrals
Gas Meter Repairs	180	Unbudgeted costs related to repairs to maintain safety of meters and boxes. Will be factored into budget from 2014/15.
	<u>(795)</u>	

Notes

i. Response Repairs - the response repairs projection (included above) is an extrapolation, based on current levels of jobs raised and current average job costs, this projection could vary significantly as the year progresses if the demand profile changes compared with recent year's trends.

ii. Void Repairs - in relation to the projected overspend (included above) there has been a 33% increase in the level of voids from the corresponding period last year and analysis is currently on-going to try to establish the reasons for this increase.

3. HOMELESSNESS - £0.069m underspent

The projected underspend against this service consists of savings from staff vacancies (£0.117m) offset to a degree by a reduced level of rental income from Homeless Furnished Units (£0.044m)

5. LOAN CHARGES - £0.094m underspent

There is a projected saving in loan charges for 2013/14 as a result of slippage on the capital programme in recent years, combined with external borrowing falling below anticipated levels due to the short-term use of cash balances currently held by the Council.

5. RENTAL INCOME - £0.284m under-recovered

There is a projected shortfall in mainstream house rental income (£0.280m) based on current fortnightly rent charges. The specific reason for this shortfall is under investigation but generally relates to actual house numbers and/or average rent levels being lower than estimated levels.

6. HRA BALANCES

	B/fwd from 2012/13	Period 4 Revenue	Funding of Capital Projects	Bal at 31/03/14
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council House Building Fund	3.712	-	(2.036)	1.676
Contingency Balance	0.400	-	-	0.400
Furnished Tenancies service	0.146	-	-	0.146
Copeland Crescent street reinstatement	0.150	-	(0.100)	0.050
Uncommitted Balance	2.765	0.979	-	3.744
	7.173	0.979	(2.136)	6.016

Budget Management - 31 July 2013
Virement/Budget Adjustment Requests

	Perm (P) / Temp(T)	2013/14	
		Virement £m	Directorate Total £m
1) Budgets to be increased as a result of Grant Income			
Education & Skills			
Grant from Scot Govt 1+2 languages commitment in schools	T	0.109	
Grant from Scot Govt Opportunities for All	T	0.129	
Grant from Creative Scotland Youth Music Initiative	T	0.212	0.450
Development & Environment			
Grant from the Forestry Commission Scotland for work on the Kilpatrick Forest entrance on Arran	T	0.024	
First Scotrail - Irvine Station Car Park Development Works	T	0.650	
Grant from the Forestry Commission Scotland for a two year project on Arran to improve the entrance to the forest at Rubha Garbhard and Kilpatrick as well as further improvements to a section of the String Road.	T	0.600	
SPT grants to improve bus routes, cycle routes and car parks	T	0.323	1.597
Total Additional Funding			2.047
2) Budget Virements			
Social Services & Health			
Reduce employee cost budgets	T	-0.400	
Reduce mental health care package budgets	P	-0.200	
Reduce adoption allowances budgets	P	-0.130	
Reduce adoption allowances budgets	T	-0.040	
Reduce Impacct respite budget	T	-0.055	
Reduce kinship allowances budget	T	-0.075	
Reduce contingency budget	P	-0.100	
Increase Learning Disability care package budgets	P/T	0.310	
Increase Physical Disability care package budgets	P/T	0.205	
Fund additional temporary staff within Care at Home	T	0.075	
Increase care package budgets for Children with Disabilities	P/T	0.310	
Transfer budget of £0.100m from contingency to provide permanent budget for Remand placements in residential schools	P	0.100	0.000

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 11

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Capital Monitoring to 31 July 2013**

Purpose: To advise the Cabinet of progress in delivering the Capital Investment Programme as at 31 July 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees to (a) approve the revisions to budgets outlined at Sections 2.1 and 2.7 of the report; (b) approve the allocation of £0.473m from the Capital Fund as outlined in section 2.4; and (c) note (i) the actual General Services and HRA expenditure to 31 July 2013 and (ii) the forecast of expenditure to 31 March 2014.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The General Services and Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital budgets were approved at a special meeting of the Council on 30 January 2013. The General Services capital programme approval covered a firm plan for the 5 year period from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2018 and an indicative plan for the years from 2018/19 to 2022/23. The HRA budget was approved for 2013/14 only.
- 1.2 This report identifies the current programme for 2013/14, taking account of adjustments made to budgets since the meeting on 30 January 2013. The report also advises of actual expenditure to 31 July 2013 and forecast expenditure to 31 March 2014.

2. Current Position

2.1 The table below outlines the movements in the 2013/14 General Services budget since the meeting on 30 January:-

	2013/14
	£m
Budget approved on 30 January 2013	4.800
a) Budget approved 1 February 2012 (following 2012/13 movements)	43.049
b) Alterations to phasing of projects:-	
2012/13 to 2013/14	0.691
2013/14 to 2014/15 and beyond	(9.541)
c) Additional Projects funded by grants & contributions	2.093
Budget as at 31 July 2013	41.092

2.1.1 The major carry forward of funds to later years are as follows:-

- (i) within Finance and Corporate Support £2.295m has been reprofiled to 2014/15 in respect of the refurbishments of Bridgegate House (£0.948m) and Cunninghame House (£1.347m). This financial reprofiling, however, is not expected to impact on the delivery time of either of these projects.
- (ii) within Education & Skills the major slippage is in respect of Garnock Academy replacement (£1.815m) due to the deliberations around site selection and project scope. £1.470m has also been reprofiled in respect of the Schools Estate (£1m) for which firm proposals have still to be drawn up and Irvine East Primary school (£0.470m) which is still expected to be completed on the original target date. Expenditure of £0.956m has been accelerated into 2013/14 in respect of Irvine Leisure Centre which is due to open in September 2015.
- (iii) within Development and Environment £1.1m has been reprofiled into 2014/15 and 2015/16 for the Council's share of the costs of Next Generation Broadband, the payment schedules being in line with national procurement timescales, Town Centre Regeneration costs of £0.330m have been slipped into 2014/15 in order to allow time to further develop the town centre schemes, the budget of £1.5m for Garnock Valley Flood Prevention Scheme had to be slipped into later years as the project is still establishing the nature and full scope of the requirements.

- (iv) within Social Services & Health, £0.479m has been delayed as a result of the development of the scope of the project to replace the Dirrans Centre. In addition, the design of the Largs Older People's Resource Centre has only been recently approved and will not be tendered until January 2014. Budget of £0.987m has , therefore, been reprofiled into 2014/15.
- (v) since the budget was approved on 30 January 2013 additional funding of £2.093m has been identified, the most significant sums being (a) £0.317m funding from the Change & Service Redesign Fund to support the ICT Development Plan (b) £0.450m from Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to support development of the roads network (c) a total of £0.135m from various agencies to assist in improving the Access Paths Network (d) £0.315m from the Forestry Commission to support to carry out road improvements on Arran and (e) £0.200m from Irvine Bay Regeneration Company to fund additional works at Trinity Church.

2.2 Capital Expenditure to 31 July 2013

Actual expenditure to 31 July 2013 (Period 4) amounted to £11.519m or 28.1% (compared to anticipated expenditure of £12.752m or 31.1%) of the revised annual budget for 2013/14 of £41.092m. Details of actual spend by project against the revised budget for 2013/14 can be found in Appendix 1, alongside anticipated spend to 31 March 2014. The projections are summarised by service in the table below:

Service	Revised Budget 2013/14	Projected Expenditure / Income to 31 March 2014	Projected Variance Over / (Under) Spend	True Over / (Under) Spend	Net Carry Forward to 2014/15
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Expenditure					
Finance & Corporate Support	9.331	9.284	(0.047)		(0.047)
Education & Skills	16.358	16.420	0.062	0.175	(0.113)
Development & Environment	9.434	9.434	-		-
Social Services & Health	5.892	5.895	0.003		0.003
Other	0.077	0.077	-		-
Total Expenditure	41.092	41.110	0.018	0.175	(0.157)
Income					
General Capital Grant	(9.595)	(9.595)	-		
Specific Capital Grant	(0.144)	(0.144)	-		
Use of Reserve Funds	(3.231)	(3.231)	-		
Capital Funded from Current Revenue	(2.172)	(2.172)	-		
Capital Receipts	(0.390)	(0.390)	-		
Other Grants & Contributions	(6.702)	(6.702)	-		
Prudential Borrowing	(18.858)	(18.876)	(0.018)	(0.175)	0.157
Total Income	(41.092)	41.110	(0.018)	(0.175)	0.157

2.3 There is currently a projected overspend of £0.175m on the Woodlands Primary School project, primarily as a result of planning condition requirements surrounding off-site roadworks. Officers, however, will carry out further investigation into this issue and report back to Cabinet with their findings prior to works being carried out.

2.4 As stated in paragraph 2.1 and in previous reports to Cabinet, the scope of the project to replace the Dirrans Head Injury Unit has undergone major changes from the original design. The most recent high level estimates suggest that the project cost is now likely to be in the region of £1.873m compared to the available existing budget of £1.4m. This estimate is, however, subject to tender. It is proposed that £0.473m is transferred from the Capital Fund to meet the projected additional cost. Tender documentation is due to be issued at the end of September with returns due week commencing 25 October 2013.

- 2.4.1 Information on the progress of all projects and explanations for the carry forwards can be found in Appendix 1.

Housing Revenue Account

- 2.5 The table below outlines the movements in the 2013/14 HRA Capital budget since the meeting on 30 January:-

	2013/14
	£m
Budget approved on 30 January 2013	25.885
a) Carry forward from 2012/13	1.991
b) Additional projects funded by grants & contributions	1.439
Budget as at 31 July 2013	29.315

- 2.6 Since the budget was approved on 30 January the house building projects at the John Galt PS and Stevenson Institute sites have been added to the 2013/14 programme. These projects were approved by Cabinet on 24 August and 4 December 2012 respectively and are funded from the Council House Building Fund. In addition, some minor adjustments have been made to the budgets to bring them into line with the proposed programme of works for the year as agreed between Housing Services, Building Services and Housing Assets and Investment. These changes are reflected in the detailed programme which can be found in Appendix 2. This has resulted in a revised budget at 31 July of £29.315m.

Capital Expenditure

- 2.7 Actual expenditure to 31 July 2013 (Period 4) amounted to £5.567m or 18.3% of the revised annual budget of £29.315m. Current projections suggest that there will be a underspend of £0.422m at 31 March 2014 of which net funding of £0.495m requires to be carried forward to 2014/15. This is primarily in respect of the reprofiling of funding of £0.500m for the regeneration works at Dickson Drive, Irvine which will not affect the original anticipated delivery date of the project.

3. Proposals

3.1 It is proposed that:-

In General Services -

The Cabinet is invited to (a) approve the further revisions to budgets outlined at Section 2.1 and Appendix 1; (b) approve the allocation of £0.473m from the Capital Fund as outlined in section 2.4; and (c) note (i) the actual expenditure to 31 July 2013 and (ii) the forecast of expenditure to 31 March 2014; and

In the H.R.A. -

The Cabinet is invited to (a) approve the further revisions to the budget outlined at Section 2.7; (b) note the actual expenditure to 31 July 2013 and (ii) the forecast of expenditure to 31 March 2014.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 The financial implications are as outlined in the report. Expenditure will continue to be closely monitored to ensure early action is taken regarding any projected underspends or overspends.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource Implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal Implications.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality Implications.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental Implications.

Implications for Key Priorities

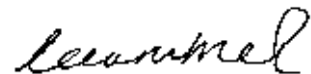
- 4.6 A delay in completion of projects could affect the delivery of services and have implications for revenue budgets and service planning.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 Consultations have taken place with all services in respect of their projects.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The report invites the Cabinet to approve the revisions to budgets for General Services and the Housing Revenue Account, and note the level of capital expenditure to 31 July 2013 and projections to 31 March 2014.



LAURA FRIEL
Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support)

Reference :

For further information please contact Hazel Hair, Senior Manager (Financial Management) on 01294 324548

Background Papers

0

North Ayrshire Council Capital Statement Year Ended 31st March 2014																	
Project Description	Approved Budget at 1st February 2012 £	Carry Forward from 2012/13 £	Budget Approved Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14 £	Approved Revisions to Programme £	Total Revised Budget 2013/14 £	Year to Date Budget 2013/14 £	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013 £	Year to Date Variance 2013/14 £	Projected Expenditure to 31st March 2014 £	Projected Over/ (Under) Spend for 2013/14 £	True Over/ (Under) Spend £	Carry Forward to 2014/15 £	Committed Programme 2014/15 £	Committed Programme 2015/16 £	Committed Programme 2016/17 £	Committed Programme 2017/18 £
EXPENDITURE																	
Finance & Corporate Support																	
Financial Services	62,760	0	0	0	0	62,760	0	0	0	0	(62,760)	0	(62,760)	0	0	0	0
Property	83,392	0	0	0	3,000	86,392	0	8,907	8,907	86,392	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Information Technology	616,113	9,704	0	317,000	0	942,817	313,972	54,679	(259,293)	910,817	(32,000)	0	(32,000)	428,000	165,000	0	0
Council IT Strategy	0	100,000	0	0	0	100,000	0	9,014	9,014	100,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office Accommodation	8,192,257	(210,860)	1,900,000	200,000	(1,942,240)	8,139,157	2,747,569	2,770,235	22,666	8,187,387	48,230	0	48,230	3,040,141	3,100,000	0	0
Education & Skills																	
Nursery Education	0	0	250,000	0	(200,000)	50,000	0	0	0	50,000	0	0	0	200,000	0	0	0
Primary Schools	12,568,002	493,928	30,000	110,000	(1,296,500)	11,905,430	5,430,020	5,365,934	(64,086)	12,080,519	175,089	175,089	0	8,106,760	147,000	0	0
Secondary Schools	2,626,750	3,647	600,000	0	(1,919,594)	1,310,803	19,193	27,577	8,384	1,310,803	0	0	0	10,424,594	11,215,000	19,400,000	0
Special Education	55,000	4,418	0	0	0	59,418	0	(500)	(500)	10,000	(49,418)	0	(49,418)	110,000	360,811	0	0
General School Projects	93,981	15,600	0	0	33,261	142,842	54,000	3,942	(50,058)	142,842	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sport & Leisure	1,174,000	(31,695)	0	0	963,374	2,105,679	754,914	940,150	185,236	2,042,296	(63,383)	0	(63,383)	13,849,747	3,373,153	0	0
Cultural & Community	209,153	25,431	400,000	168,907	(20,012)	783,479	250,093	201,619	(48,474)	783,479	0	0	0	420,012	400,000	400,000	400,000
Development & Environment																	
Economic Development	154,000	47,807	1,430,000	127,500	(1,430,000)	329,307	72,000	127,201	55,201	329,307	0	0	0	2,830,000	2,500,000	2,200,000	1,750,000
Planning	60,000	194,596	50,000	329,000	0	633,596	275,820	176,559	(99,261)	633,596	0	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	200,000
Renewable Energy	0	0	0	0	40,000	40,000	1,000	0	(1,000)	40,000	0	0	0	2,460,000	2,500,000	0	0
Roads	5,396,000	(813)	0	756,000	(1,503,000)	4,648,187	839,091	706,736	(132,355)	4,648,187	0	0	0	7,722,000	5,188,000	7,260,000	4,660,000
Enviromment & Related Services	3,426,240	97,250	140,000	0	119,164	3,782,654	1,130,712	361,109	(769,603)	3,782,654	0	0	0	3,566,836	4,404,000	4,715,000	3,093,000
Social Services & Health																	
Management & Support	283,521	0	0	0	(29,000)	254,521	29,000	0	(29,000)	225,521	(29,000)	0	(29,000)	29,000	0	0	0
Older People	5,583,833	(107,293)	0	0	(1,191,913)	4,284,627	564,925	564,947	22	4,316,152	31,525	0	31,525	3,472,814	100,000	3,500,000	0
Physical or Sensory Disabled	994,829	12,815	0	0	(479,061)	528,583	5,534	9,772	4,238	528,583	0	0	0	828,018	0	0	0
Learning Disabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Housing Non HRA	860,000	(35,483)	0	0	0	824,517	264,517	191,132	(73,385)	824,517	0	0	0	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000
Other																	
Other	609,264	72,540	0	84,000	(688,530)	77,274	0	0	0	77,274	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Project Expenditure	43,049,095	691,592	4,800,000	2,092,407	(9,541,051)	41,092,043	12,752,360	11,519,014	(1,233,346)	41,110,326	18,283	175,089	(156,806)	58,237,922	34,202,964	38,225,000	10,803,000
Income	(43,049,095)	(691,592)	(4,800,000)	(2,092,407)	9,541,051	(41,092,043)	(4,537,660)	(4,537,660)	0	(41,110,326)	(18,283)	(175,089)	156,806	(58,237,922)	(34,202,964)	(38,225,000)	(10,803,000)
Total Project Income	(43,049,095)	(691,592)	(4,800,000)	(2,092,407)	9,541,051	(41,092,043)	(4,537,660)	(4,537,660)	0	(41,110,326)	(18,283)	(175,089)	156,806	(58,237,922)	(34,202,964)	(38,225,000)	(10,803,000)
Total Net Expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	0	8,214,701	6,981,354	(1,233,346)	(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

North Ayrshire Council Capital Programme Funding												
Funding Description	Approved Budget at 1st February 2012	Carry Forward from 2012/13	Budget Approved Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions to Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Actual as at 31st July 2013	Projected Income to 31st March 2014	Proposed Budget 2014/15	Proposed Budget 2015/16	Proposed Budget 2016/17	Proposed Budget 2017/18
	£	£	£		£	£	£	£				
<u>CAPITAL BORROWING</u>												
Prudential Borrowing	25,323,519	557,851	1,473,000		(10,031,051)	17,323,319		17,363,707	29,936,002	19,116,173	26,035,000	613,000
Acceleration borrowing from 2015/16			1,114,791			1,114,791		1,114,791				
Acceleration borrowing from 2014/15			420,209			420,209		420,209				
SUB TOTAL	25,323,519	557,851	3,008,000	0	(10,031,051)	18,858,319	0	18,898,707	29,936,002	19,116,173	26,035,000	613,000
<u>SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT FUNDING</u>												
Specific Capital Grants												
Cycling / Walking Routes	144,000					144,000		144,000	212,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
Capital Grants												
General Capital Grant	8,177,000		1,334,000	84,000		9,595,000	3,406,332	9,595,000	13,134,000	12,379,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
SUB TOTAL	8,321,000	0	1,334,000	84,000	0	9,739,000	3,406,332	9,739,000	13,346,000	12,529,000	9,150,000	9,150,000
<u>OTHER INCOME TO PROGRAMME</u>												
<u>Use of Funds</u>												
Capital Fund	157,121				700,000	857,121		857,121	5,773,636		2,000,000	
Change & Service Redesign Fund		57,317		317,000		374,317		374,317				
General Fund Balance						0		0				
Repairs & Renewals Fund	2,000,000					2,000,000		2,000,000	3,000,000			
						0		0				
CFCR									2,968,000			
Dirrans	1,210,000				-210,000	1,000,000		1,000,000				
General	850,000		118,000			968,000		968,000				
Largs Car Park Fund		50,000				50,000		50,000				
Castlepark PS				110,000		110,000		110,000				
West Kilbride CC Gym				43,907		43,907		43,907				
Grants & Contributions									1,542,075			
Access Paths - CSGN				32,500		32,500		32,500				
Access Paths - SPT				25,000		25,000		25,000				
Access Paths - SUSTRANS				67,500		67,500		67,500				
Access Paths - URC				10,000		10,000		10,000				
Enabling Funds	872,995					872,995		872,995				
Forestry Commission - Timber Transport				450,000		450,000		450,000				
HRA Funding - Currie Court	1,101,000					1,101,000		1,101,000				
SPT Funding - Roads				450,000		450,000		450,000				
Tourism Infrastructure				127,500		127,500						
Trinity Church Funding				200,000		200,000	180,395	280,395				
URC Funding - Bridgegtae Projets:	3,213,460					3,213,460		3,213,460				
Trinity Church							100,000					
Bridgegate House							130,000					
URC - Public Realm							500,000					
Moffat Trust West Kilbride Gymnasium				125,000		125,000	150,000	150,000				
Zero Waste Scotland		26,424				26,424		26,424				
Capital Receipts			340,000	50,000		390,000	70,933	390,000	1,632,209	2,517,791	1,000,000	1,000,000
Sale of Land						0	50,000	0				
Sale of Vehicles						0	20,933	0	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
						0		0				
						0		0				
SUB TOTAL	9,404,576	133,741	458,000	2,008,407	490,000	12,494,724	1,131,328	12,472,619	14,955,920	2,557,791	3,040,000	1,040,000
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME FUNDING	43,049,095	691,592	4,800,000	2,092,407	(9,541,051)	41,092,043	4,537,660	41,110,326	58,237,922	34,202,964	38,225,000	10,803,000

FINANCE & CORPORATE SUPPORT

Project Description	Lead Officer	CURRENT YEAR 2013/14 EXPENDITURE															2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Comments
		Approved Budget at 1 Feb 2012	Carry Forward From 2012/13	Budget Approved 30 Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions To Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013	Year to Date Variance 2013/14	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected Over/ (Under) Spend for 13/14	True Over/(Under) Spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	% Expenditure for 2013/14	% Expenditure Projected for year 13/14 (CPI)	Revised Budget for 14/15	Revised Budget for 15/16	Revised Budget for 16/17	Revised Budget for 17/18	
Financial Services																					
FINANCIAL SYSTEMS	Y.Baulk	36,784				25,976	62,760	0	0	0	0	(62,760)		(62,760)	0.00%	0.00%	0	0	0	0	
E PROCUREMENT		25,976				(25,976)	0														
Total Financial Services		62,760	0	0	0	0	62,760	0	0	0	0	(62,760)	0	(62,760)	0.00%	0.00%	0	0	0	0	
Property																					
CORP ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM	T Burns	83,392				3,000	86,392	0	8,907	8,907	86,392	0			10.31%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Expenditure to be transferred to Revenue. TB to provide finance code
Total Property		83,392	0	0	0	3,000	86,392	0	8,907	8,907	86,392	0	0	0	10.31%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
Information Technology																					
PC REPLACEMENT	L Morley	121,295	(24,742)				96,553	25,000	14,617	(10,383)	96,553	0			15.14%	100.00%	165,000	165,000	0	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE UPGRADE	I Chisholm	276,168					276,168	276,168	0	(276,168)	276,168	0			0.00%	100.00%	263,000	0	0	0	
SUN SERVER REPLACE PROG	B Quigley	39,408	(2,025)		162,617		200,000	0	0	0	168,000	(32,000)		(32,000)	0.00%	84.00%	0	0	0	0	
WINDOWS SERVER MIGRATION	I Chisholm	31,769	2,384		22,847		57,000	0	0	0	57,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
NEW COUNCIL ICT STRATEGY	A. Blakely	112,080	34,107		131,536	35,373	313,096	12,804	40,062	27,258	313,096	0			12.80%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
Total Information Technology		616,113	9,704	0	317,000	0	942,817	313,972	54,679	(259,293)	910,817	(32,000)	0	(32,000)	5.80%	96.61%	428,000	165,000	0	0	
Council IT Strategy																					
WIRELESS ACCESS IN SCHOOLS	A Blakely	0	100,000				100,000	0	9,014	9,014	100,000	0			9.01%	100.00%					
Total IT Strategy		0	100,000	0	0	0	100,000	0	9,014	9,014	100,000	0	0	0	9.01%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
Office Accommodation																					
CCTV GENERAL		0	30,372				30,372	0	9,990	9,990	30,372	0			32.89%		0				
BRIDGEGATE HOUSE REFURB	L Cree	5,884,417	179,742			(948,331)	5,115,828	2,074,083	2,064,603	(9,480)	5,099,058	(16,770)		(16,770)	40.36%		83,230				
CUNN HOUSE 3RD FLOOR WEST	Y Baulk	0					0	0	(150)	(150)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
TRINITY CHURCH REFURBISHMENT	Y Baulk	638,881	(346,537)		200,000	1,001	493,345	183,245	170,246	(12,999)	493,345	0			34.51%	100.00%	17,000	0	0	0	
BRIDGEGATE PUBLIC REALM	Y Baulk	1,668,959	(55,319)			295,001	1,908,641	439,508	525,546	86,038	1,908,641	0			27.54%	100.00%	50,000	0	0	0	
CUNNINGHAME HOUSE PHASE 1	D Watts	0	(19,118)	1,900,000		(1,346,660)	534,222	50,733	0	(50,733)	534,222	0			0.00%	100.00%	2,889,911	1,200,000	0	0	
CUNNINGHAME HOUSE PHASE 2	D Watts	0				56,749	56,749	0	0	0	56,749	0			0.00%	100.00%	0				
SALTCOATS TOWN HALL REFRB	L. Cree	0					0	0	0	0	65,000	65,000		65,000	No budget	No budget		1,900,000	0	0	tees and surveys expected in 13/14
Total Office Accommodation		8,192,257	(210,860)	1,900,000	200,000	(1,942,240)	8,139,157	2,747,569	2,770,235	22,666	8,187,387	48,230	0	48,230	34.04%	100.59%	3,040,141	3,100,000	0	0	
Total Finance & Corporate Support		8,954,522	(101,156)	1,900,000	517,000	(1,939,240)	9,331,126	3,061,541	2,842,836	(218,705)	9,284,586	(46,530)	0	(46,530)	30.47%	99.50%	3,468,141	3,265,000	0	0	

EDUCATION & SKILLS

CURRENT YEAR 2013/14 EXPENDITURE																					
Project Description	Lead Officer	Approved Budget at 1 Feb 2012	Carry Forward From 2012/13	Budget Approved 30 Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions To Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013	Year to Date Variance 2013/14	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected Over/(Under) Spend for 13/14	True Over/(Under) Spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	% Expenditure for 2013/14	% Expenditure Projected for year 13/14 (CPI)	2014/15 Revised Budget for 14/15	2015/16 Revised Budget for 15/16	2016/17 Revised Budget for 16/17	2017/18 Revised Budget for 17/18	Comments
Nursery Education																					
EARLY YEARS CHILDRENS BILL	F Rodman			250,000		(200,000)	50,000	0	0	0	50,000	0					200,000	0	0	0	
Total Nursery Education		0	0	250,000	0	(200,000)	50,000	0	0	0	50,000	0	0		0.00%	100.00%	200,000	0	0	0	
Primary Schools																					
WOODLANDS PS EXTENSION	L Suttie	397,894	115,758			(43,649)	470,003	449,175	450,972	1,797	645,092	175,089	175,089		95.95%	137.25%	43,649	0	0	0	Project overspend primarily due to roadworks at £160k
PENNYBURN PS ROOF REPLACE	D Mackay	28,649	(3,939)				24,710	0	0	0	24,710	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
KELBURN PARTITIONS	B Ingram	136,800	(780)				136,020	0	2,700	2,700	136,020	0		0	1.99%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Final Account still to be received
SKELMORLIE PARTITIONS	J Brydon	61,650	4,350				66,000	0	1,314	1,314	66,000	0		0	1.99%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Final Account still to be received
SCHOOL ESTATE	A Kirk/L Taylor	1,000,000				(1,000,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	6,300,000	0	0	0	
REPLACE SHUTTERS VARIOUS	D Mackay	12,163	(1,233)				10,930	0	0	0	10,930	0		0	0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Final Account still to be received
CUMBRAE PS ROOF	R Connell	0	(2,111)	30,000		310,000	337,889	0	1,089	1,089	337,889	0		0	0.32%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Programme and final costs to be provided by BS
IRVINE EAST PS	L Suttie	7,662,998	31,651			(470,103)	7,224,546	2,216,884	2,238,021	21,137	7,224,546	0			30.98%	100.00%	970,363	147,000	0	0	
ST LUKES PS-EXTENSION	A Martin	0				52,500	52,500	0	(4,951)	(4,951)	52,500	0			-9.43%	100.00%	647,500	0	0	0	
DREGHORN PS UPGRADE REPLC	A Martin	0					0	0	(103,506)	(103,506)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	Additional works prev agreed with E&S
CASTLEPARK PS	L Suttie	3,267,848	350,232		110,000	(145,248)	3,582,832	2,763,961	2,794,539	30,578	3,582,832	0			78.00%	100.00%	145,248	0	0	0	
GLENCAIRN PS GYM EXT	D Wordsworth	0					0	0	(14,748)	(14,748)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
Total Primary Education		12,568,002	493,928	30,000	110,000	(1,296,500)	11,905,430	5,430,020	5,365,934	(64,086)	12,080,519	175,089	175,089	0	45.07%	101.47%	8,106,760	147,000	0	0	
Secondary Schools																					
GARNOCK ACADEMY REPLACEMENT	S Storrie	2,626,750	13,897			(1,814,977)	825,670	4,060	5,069	1,009	825,670	0			0.61%	100.00%	10,319,977	11,215,000	19,400,000	0	
3 TOWNS CAMPUS	S Storrie		(10,250)	600,000		(104,617)	485,133	15,133	21,163	6,030	485,133	0			4.36%	100.00%	104,617		0	0	
Total Secondary Education		2,626,750	3,647	600,000	0	(1,919,594)	1,310,803	19,193	27,577	8,384	1,310,803	0	0	0	0.64%	100.00%	10,424,594	11,215,000	19,400,000	0	
Special Education																					
STANECASTLE REMEDIAL WORKS	A Martin	55,000	4,418				59,418	0	(500)	(500)	10,000	(49,418)		(49,418)	-0.84%	16.83%	110,000	360,811	0	0	Works planned as a result of 6-monthly inspections
Total Special Education		55,000	4,418	0	0	0	59,418	0	(500)	(500)	10,000	(49,418)	0	(49,418)	-0.84%	16.83%	110,000	360,811	0	0	
General School Projects																					
ARRAN OUTDOOR EDUC CENTRE	A Martin	93,981	15,600			(93,981)	15,600	15,600	0	(15,600)	15,600	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
ARRAN OUTDOOR CENTRE SLIPWAY	K Gacura	0				127,242	127,242	38,400	3,942	(34,458)	127,242	0			3.10%	100.00%					
Total General School Projects		93,981	15,600	0	0	33,261	142,842	54,000	3,942	(50,058)	142,842	0	0	0	2.76%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	

EDUCATION & SKILLS

Project Description	Lead Officer	CURRENT YEAR 2013/14 EXPENDITURE																2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Comments
		Approved Budget at 1 Feb 2012	Carry Forward From 2012/13	Budget Approved 30 Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions To Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013	Year to Date Variance 2013/14	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected Over/(Under) Spend for 13/14	True Over/(Under) Spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	% Expenditure for 2013/14	% Expenditure Projected for year 13/14 (CPI)	Revised Budget for 14/15	Revised Budget for 15/16	Revised Budget for 16/17	Revised Budget for 17/18		
Sports & Leisure																						
LARGS SPORTS DEVELOPMENT	D Wilson	112,529	5,039				117,568	0	0	0	54,185	(63,383)		(63,383)	0.00%	46.09%	0	0	0	0	The money is ring fenced for the development of sport within Largs therefore any underspend must be spent with this in mind.	
IRVINE LEISURE CENTRE	L Suttie	1,061,471	(36,734)			956,089	1,980,826	747,629	938,820	191,191	1,980,826	0			47.40%	100.00%	13,849,747	3,373,153	0	0	The extent of the roadworks required as a planning condition was not anticipated in the tender documents. The D&B contractor will be obliged to fulfill planning requirements but cannot anticipate in tender.	
MEADOWSIDE PARK RESURFACING	B Ingram	0				7,285	7,285	7,285	7,285	0	7,285	0			100.01%	100.00%	0	0	0	0		
MONTGOMERIE PARK MUGAS	B Ingram	0					0	0	(5,956)	(5,956)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0		
Total Sports & Leisure		1,174,000	(31,695)	0	0	963,374	2,105,679	754,914	940,150	185,236	2,042,296	(63,383)	0	(63,383)	44.65%	96.99%	13,849,747	3,373,153	0	0		
Cultural & Community																						
CORPORATE TRAINING CENTRE	D Watts	0					0	0	(16,368)	(16,368)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0		
WEST KILBRIDE CC GYMNASIUM	D Watts	87,253	27,852		168,907	(20,012)	264,000	220,093	188,280	(31,813)	264,000	0	=	71.32%	100.00%	20,012	0	0	0	Final account to be agreed		
ARDROSSAN CASTLE	D Mackay	121,900	(2,421)				119,479	0	3,755	3,755	119,479	0			3.14%	100.00%	0	0	0	0		
CASTLES HISTORIC MONUMENTS	A Martin	0		100,000			100,000	0	25,952	25,952	100,000	0			25.95%	100.00%	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	Abbey Tower/Kerelaw Castle to be split into separate cost centres	
Total Cultural & Community		209,153	25,431	400,000	168,907	(20,012)	783,479	250,093	201,619	(48,474)	783,479	0	0	0	25.73%	100.00%	420,012	400,000	400,000	400,000		
Total Education & Skills		16,726,886	511,329	1,280,000	278,907	(2,439,471)	16,357,651	6,508,220	6,538,722	30,502	16,419,939	62,288	175,089	(112,801)	39.97%	100.38%	33,111,113	15,495,964	19,800,000	400,000		

DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT

CURRENT YEAR 2013/14 EXPENDITURE																					
Project Description	Lead Officer	Approved Budget at 1 Feb 2012	Carry Forward From 2012/13	Budget Approved 30 Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions To Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013	Year to Date Variance 2013/14	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected Over/ (Under) Spend for 13/14	True Over/(Under) Spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	% Expenditure for 2013/14	% Expenditure Projected for year 13/14 (CPI)	2014/15 Revised Budget for 14/15	2015/16 Revised Budget for 15/16	2016/17 Revised Budget for 16/17	2017/18 Revised Budget for 17/18	Comments
Economic Development																					
TOWN CENTRE INFRASTRUCTURE	G Hunter	100,000	15,698				115,698	0	1,350	1,350	115,698	0			1.17%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE	K Don	54,000	32,109		127,500		213,609	72,000	125,851	53,851	213,609	0			58.92%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
IRVINE ENTERPRISE AREA		0					0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	800,000	500,000	700,000	0	
TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION		0		330,000		(330,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	1,630,000	1,300,000	1,500,000	1,750,000	
NEXT GENERATION BROADBAND				1,100,000		(1,100,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	400,000	700,000	0	0	
Total Economic Development		154,000	47,807	1,430,000	127,500	(1,430,000)	329,307	72,000	127,201	55,201	329,307	0	0	0			2,830,000	2,500,000	2,200,000	1,750,000	
Planning																					
ACCESS PATH NETWORK PROGRAMME	J Miller	0	126,257	50,000	279,000		455,257	176,257	80,613	(95,644)	455,257	0			17.71%	100.00%	0	50,000	50,000	200,000	
MONTGOMERIE PARK SUDS POND	J Miller	60,000	68,339				128,339	99,563	95,946	(3,617)	128,339	0			74.76%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Possible legal costs to be quantified
MONTGOMERIE PARK MASTERPLAN		0			50,000		50,000	0	0	0	50,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	50,000				Issue August
Total Planning		60,000	194,596	50,000	329,000	0	633,596	275,820	176,559	(99,261)	633,596	0	0	0	27.87%	100.00%	50,000	50,000	50,000	200,000	
Renewable Energy																					
RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMME	S Taylor	0				40,000	40,000	1,000	0	(1,000)	40,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	2,460,000	2,500,000			
Total Renewable Energy		0	0	0	0	40,000	40,000	1,000	0	(1,000)	40,000	0					2,480,000	2,500,000	0	0	
Roads																					
ASSET MANAGEMENT - ROADS			3,000			(3,000)	0								No budget	No budget					
ROADS IMPROVE/RECONSTRUCTION	C Dempster	1,800,000	22,710		(310,000)		1,512,710	165,000	163,836	(1,164)	1,512,710	0			10.83%	100.00%	1,650,000	1,800,000	3,100,000	3,100,000	
PENNYBURN ROUNDABOUT		0					0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	2,000,000	0	0	
B714 UPGRADE															No budget	No budget	3,000,000				
LIGHTING	G Wilson	1,000,000	39,406				1,039,406	266,406	5,451	(260,955)	1,039,406	0			0.52%	100.00%	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	
IRVINE TOWN CENTRE CAR PARK	C Forsyth	287,000	(3,315)				283,685	2,685	0	(2,685)	283,685	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	Additional funding required
CAR PARK STRATEGY		0					0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	360,000	360,000	0	0	
CYCLING/WALKING/SAFER STS	C Forsyth	144,000			(144,000)		0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	212,000	28,000	0	0	
CULVERTS & COAST PROT AST	P. Cobley	0	7,090				7,090	0	0	0	7,090	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
KILBIRNIE FPS		1,965,000	(69,704)			(1,500,000)	395,296	45,000	21,778	(23,223)	395,296	0			5.51%	100.00%	1,500,000	0	2,600,000	0	
COASTAL PROT-BALLOCHMARTIN BA	P Cobley	100,000					100,000	0	0	0	100,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
SPT FUNDED PROJECTS	D. Lodge	0			450,000		450,000	50,000	0	(50,000)	450,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
TIMBER TRANSPORT FUNDING					760,000		760,000	310,000	515,671	205,671	760,000	0			67.85%	100.00%	0		0		
DUNDONALD BRIDGE	P Cobley	100,000					100,000	0	0	0	100,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
BRIDGES INFRASTRUCTURE PROG		0					0	0	0	0	0	0				No budget	0	0	560,000	560,000	
Total Roads		5,396,000	(813)	0	756,000	(1,503,000)	4,648,187	839,091	706,736	(132,355)	4,648,187	0	0	0	15.20%	100.00%	7,722,000	5,188,000	7,260,000	4,660,000	

DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT

CURRENT YEAR 2013/14 EXPENDITURE																					
Project Description	Lead Officer	Approved Budget at 1 Feb 2012	Carry Forward From 2012/13	Budget Approved 30 Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions To Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013	Year to Date Variance 2013/14	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected Over/ (Under) Spend for 13/14	True Over/(Under) Spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	% Expenditure for 2013/14	% Expenditure Projected for year 13/14 (CPI)	2014/15 Revised Budget for 14/15	2015/16 Revised Budget for 15/16	2016/17 Revised Budget for 16/17	2017/18 Revised Budget for 17/18	Comments
Environment & Related Services																					
VEHICLES	G.Mitchell	2,316,000	(15,593)				2,300,407	483,000	160,361	(322,639)	2,300,407	0			6.97%	100.00%	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	
ARRAN GARAGE IMPROVEMENTS	G.Mitchell	0					0	0	(1,023)	(1,023)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
CLEANSING-SHEWALTON LANDFILL	D.Mackay	781,947	(3,819)				778,128	255,000	9,364	(245,636)	778,128	0			1.20%	100.00%	1,000,000	900,000	1,000,000	300,000	
LARGS HWRC	D.Mackay	0					0	0	(7,624)	(7,624)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
ICT WASTE MANAGEMENT SYS	D.Mackay	0	44,488				44,488	42,488	7,518	(34,970)	44,488	0			16.90%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
REVERSE VENDING PILOT PROJECT	D.Mackay	0	26,424				26,424	26,424	26,259	(165)	26,424	0			99.38%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
Paddockholm Depot	R Connell	0		100,000			100,000	0	0	0	100,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	A scheme has been agreed and is being costed. Full spend anticipated as present.
STREETSCENE SCHEDULING SYSTEM	W. Turpie	30,500	26,817				57,317	0	19,350	19,350	57,317	0			33.76%	100.00%	0	0	0	0	
WEST KILBRIDE CEMETERY EXTEN	A Martin	53,998	50,157			67,607	171,762	56,082	22,700	(33,382)	171,762	0			13.22%	100.00%	(67,607)	0	0	0	
NEW STEVENSTON CEMETERY	A Martin	0					0	0	(15,400)	(15,400)	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
SKELMORLIE CEMETERY WALL	A Martin	150,620	(2,395)			(148,225)	0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	148,225	0	0	0	May not spend
CEMETERY WALLS &INFRASTRUCTURE	A Martin	93,175	(28,829)			198,782	263,128	257,718	138,287	(119,431)	263,128	0			52.55%	100.00%	50,218	250,000	0	0	
CEMETERIES - EXTENSIONS	A Martin	0		40,000			40,000	10,000	0	(10,000)	40,000	0			0.00%	100.00%	436,000	1,254,000	1,715,000	793,000	
BRODICK CEMETERY EXTENSION	A Martin	0				1,000	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0			100.00%	100.00%	0	0		0	Expenditure to be transferred to Revenue
HAVS MONITORING SYSTEM	W. Turpie	0					0	0	318	318	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
Total Environmental		3,426,240	97,250	140,000	0	119,164	3,782,654	1,130,712	361,109	(769,603)	3,782,654	0	0	0	9.55%	100.00%	3,566,836	4,404,000	4,715,000	3,093,000	
Total Development & Environment		9,036,240	338,840	1,620,000	1,212,500	(2,773,836)	9,433,744	2,318,623	1,371,606	(947,017)	9,433,744	0	0	0	52.82%	100.00%	16,628,836	14,642,000	14,225,000	9,703,000	

SOCIAL SERVICES & HEALTH

CURRENT YEAR 2013/14 EXPENDITURE																					
Project Description	Lead Officer	Approved Budget at 1 Feb 2012	Carry Forward From 2012/13	Budget Approved 30 Jan 2013	Additional Funds Awarded 2013/14	Approved Revisions To Programme	Total Revised Budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual Expenditure to 31st July 2013	Year to Date Variance 2013/14	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected Over/ (Under) Spend for 13/14	True Over/(Under) Spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	% Expenditure for 2013/14	% Expenditure Projected for year 13/14 (CPI)	2014/15 Revised Budget for 14/15	2015/16 Revised Budget for 15/16	2016/17 Revised Budget for 16/17	2017/18 Revised Budget for 17/18	Comments
Management & Support																					
HOME CARE SYSTEM	L Raeside	283,521				(29,000)	254,521	29,000	0	(29,000)	225,521	(29,000)		(29,000)	0.00%	88.61%	29,000	0	0	0	Progressing with the recruitment of posts and expect to make a phased payment to software provider shortly.
Total Management & Support		283,521	0	0	0	(29,000)	254,521	29,000	0	(29,000)	225,521	(29,000)	0	(29,000)	0.00%	88.61%	29,000	0	0	0	
Older People																					
MONTROSE HSE REDESIGN FACILIT	D Watts	2,586,833	(94,425)			(157,875)	2,334,533	23,789	23,789	0	2,334,533	0			1.02%	100.00%	2,438,776	0	0	0	
LARGS OLDER PEOPLE RES CTRE	D Wordsworth	987,000				(987,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	987,000	0	0	0	
CURRIE COURT CONVERSION	D Tate	2,010,000	(12,868)			(47,038)	1,950,094	541,136	541,157	21	1,981,619	31,525		31,525	27.75%	101.62%	47,038	0	0	0	
LD DAY CENTRES		0					0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget		100,000	3,500,000	0	
Total Older People		5,583,833	(107,293)	0	0	(1,191,913)	4,284,627	564,925	564,947	22	4,316,152	31,525	0	31,525	13.19%	100.74%	3,472,814	100,000	3,500,000	0	
Physical or Sensory																					
DIRRANS REHABILITATION CENTR	L Martin	994,829	12,815			(479,061)	528,583	5,534	9,772	4,238	528,583	0			1.85%	100.00%	828,018	0	0		
Total Physical or Sensory		994,829	12,815	0	0	(479,061)	528,583	5,534	9,772	4,238	528,583	0	0	0	1.85%	100.00%	828,018	0	0		
Housing Non HRA																					
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS	A Adrain	860,000	(35,483)				824,517	264,517	163,835	(100,682)	824,517	0			19.87%	100.00%	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	Full spend projected as per Finance & Property
REPAIRS GRANTS	A Adrain	0					0	0	0	0	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
CARE & REPAIR	A Adrain	0					0	0	27,297	27,297	0	0			No budget	No budget	0	0	0	0	
Total Housing Non HRA		860,000	(35,483)	0	0	0	824,517	264,517	191,132	(73,385)	824,517	0	0	0	23.18%	100.00%	700,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	
Total Social Services & Health		7,722,183	(129,961)	0	0	(1,699,974)	5,892,248	863,976	765,851	(98,125)	5,894,773	2,525	0	2,525	13.00%	100.04%	5,029,832	800,000	4,200,000	700,000	

Description	2013/14											Comments
	Budget Approved 30 January 2013	Budget B/Fwd/ (C/Fwd)	Approved Revisions to programme	Revised budget 2013/14	Year to Date Budget 2013/14	Actual expenditure to 31 July 2013	Year to Date Variance	Projected Expenditure to 31 March 2014	Projected over/(under) Spend for 13/14	True (Under)/Over spend	Carry Forward to 2014/15	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT												
MORTGAGE TO RENT	903	704	(786)	821	2	2	0	821	0	0	0	Expenditure in relation to feasibility costs for potential future projects will be funded from Council House Building Fund
COUNCIL HOUSE BUILDING GENERAL	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	3	3	3	0	Proposal to carry this underspend forward to contribute towards future planned acquisitions from the open market.
ACQUISITION OF HOUSES ON OPEN MARKET	0	72	0	72	44	44	0	56	(16)	0	(16)	Final invoice to come through to offset accrual 12/13
NEW BUILD WINTON AVENUE	0	0	0	0	(64)	(64)	0	0	0	0	0	Offset by proposal to reduce contribution from HRA balances for Road Reinstatement to £100,000 from previously approved level of £150,000.
NEW BUILD REDSTONE AVE	4,496	6	10	4,512	567	567	0	4,512	0	0	0	Current indications are that there will be an acceleration of this programme to be matched by funding from the affordable housing fund previously profiled to be received in 2014/15..
NEW BUILD COPELAND CRES	824	467	187	1,478	721	721	0	1,428	(50)	(50)	0	Increase in planned central heating replacements for year - offset by reduction in Electrical Rewiring, to reflect shift in priority in relation to aim of improving energy efficiency of housing stock.
NEW BUILD JOHN GALT	0	(10)	1,410	1,400	150	150	0	1,400	0	0	0	
NEW BUILD STEVENSON INSTITUTE	0	(5)	84	79	3	3	0	100	21	0	21	
CENTRAL HEATING	749	(1)	0	748	237	237	0	948	200	200	0	
RE-ROOFING	0	217	(217)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
INSULATED RE-RENDERING	1,026	(228)	228	1,026	0	0	0	1,026	0	0	0	
MULTI STOREY FLATS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
WINDOW REPLACEMENT	3,274	(3)	0	3,271	797	797	0	3,271	0	0	0	
BATHROOM PROGRAMME	2,206	(19)	0	2,187	512	512	0	2,187	0	0	0	
KITCHEN PROGRAMME	2,667	37	0	2,704	510	510	0	2,704	0	0	0	
ELECTRICAL REWIRING	1,523	(31)	0	1,492	186	186	0	1,292	(200)	(200)	0	Reduction in planned programme to fund increased central heating programme based on change in priorities in relation to energy efficiency.
REGENERATION/REFURB PROJECTS	235	445	500	1,180	563	563	0	800	(380)	120	(500)	Projected increase in costs (£120,000) relates to additional works funded by Irvine Bay URC additional income shown below, budget adjustment required to reflect. £500,000 reprofile of increased budget for Dickson drive project to 2014/15.
ROOFING & RENDERING	3,665	0	(11)	3,654	592	592	0	3,654	0	0	0	
DOOR ENTRY SYSTEMS	100	(19)	0	81	4	4	0	81	0	0	0	
SHELTERED HOUSING UNITS	2,321	281	0	2,602	282	282	0	2,602	0	0	0	
OTHER CAPITAL WORKS	340	78	0	418	52	52	0	418	0	0	0	
VINEBURGH REGENERATION	0	0	34	34	36	36	0	34	0	0	0	Year to date spend includes miscoding in relation to Regeneration/Refurbishment line, above -will be corrected in period 5.
PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT CHARGES	1,556	0	0	1,556	370	370	0	1,556	0	0	0	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	25,885	1,991	1,439	29,315	5,564	5,567	3	28,893	(422)	73	(495)	
SALE OF COUNCIL HOUSES	(986)	0	0	(986)	(329)	(374)	(45)	(986)	0	0		Balance of Vineburgh receipt from 12/13 cfwd to meet remaining abnormal costs due in 2013/14. £20,000 of cost remaining, balance of receipt is reflected in projected surplus.
SALE OF ASSETS		0	(34)	(34)	(34)	(83)	(49)	(63)	(29)	(29)		CFCR previously increased by £150,000 to fund Copeland Crescent Roads Repairs - projected underspend on Copeland Project reduces requirement for CFCR by £50,000.
CFCR	(8,558)	0	(150)	(8,708)	0	0	0	(8,658)	50	50		£19,000 Projected income is in relation to Copeland Crescent House Building
CAPITAL GRANTS - MORTGAGE TO RENT	(226)	(202)	286	(142)	(47)	(4)	43	(142)	0	0		Spend in relation to feasibility costs in relation to potential future projects will be funded from Council House Building Fund
CAPITAL GRANTS - HOUSE BUILDING	(125)	(19)	125	(19)		0	0	(19)	0	0		Contribution from Irvine Bay URC to fund additional works at Western Gateway Kilwinning. See Refurbishment/Regeneration line in Expenditure section. Budget adjustment required to reflect grossing up.
CONTRIB FROM HOUSE BUILD FUND - SPECIFIC PROJECTS	(492)	0	(1,541)	(2,033)			0	(2,033)	0	0		Acceleration of Affordable Housing Monies to meet projected acceleration of Stevenson Institute project
CONTRIB FROM HOUSE BUILD FUND - GENERAL		0	0	0			0	(3)	(3)	(3)		Reduced borrowing relates to £516,000 of expenditure carry forwards to 2014/15 combined with £29,000 of additional capital receipts through Sale of Assets.
OTHER CAPITAL INCOME - WESTERN GATEWAY FROM URC	0	0	0	0	0	(120)	(120)	(120)	(120)	(120)	-21	
AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONTRIBUTION	(1,318)	0	1,318	0	0		0	(21)	(21)	0		
PRUDENTIAL BORROWING	(14,180)	(1,770)	(1,443)	(17,393)	0		0	(16,848)	545	29	516	
TOTAL INCOME	-25,885	-1,991	-1,439	-29,315	-410	-581	-171	-28,893	422	-73	495	

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 12

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Reform of Independent Living Fund**

Purpose: To advise the Cabinet of the reform of the Independent Living Fund, the proposed consultation by the Scottish Government and implications for North Ayrshire Council.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees (a) that the Council will maintain the current commitment to match funding of existing packages until the transfer of the funds has been determined by the Scottish Government; (b) to authorise participation in the Scottish Government consultation process; and (c) otherwise, to note the content of the report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Independent Living Fund (ILF) has provided financial assistance to service users in need of care and support to maintain them in their own homes since 1988. This funding was dependent on match funding by the local authority. The fund closed to new applications in 2010 and in December 2012 the Westminster Government announced its decision to transfer existing ILF budgets over to the Scottish Government. The announcement confirmed that the transfer programme will be completed by April 2015 when the ILF will then be disbanded.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 North Ayrshire currently has 85 service users who access £1.34 million from the ILF. This is matched by £1 million pounds of Council funding. It is a significant budget and helps to support these service users with complex needs to live independently. Any transfer of funds will, however, be based on the April 2015 figure which may well be lower than the current figure. This in part will be due to change in individual circumstances, attrition and the outcomes of reviews due to be held over the next 2 years.

- 2.2 When the ILF was introduced, it was an innovative scheme to allow greater choice and control over how care would be delivered to adults. It was the precursor to Direct Payments, self directed support and personalisation. A principle reason for closing the fund was the main streaming of these approaches. The Social Care (Self Directed Support) Act 2013 allows for greater flexibility and scope in how care is provided than that of the ILF.
- 2.3 The Scottish Government has announced the details of the consultation on how the ILF monies will be managed in Scotland post April 2015. Responses are due by November 2013 with the intention to report on the consultation shortly after this.
- 2.4 The stated intention is that current recipients should not have their existing funding taken away unless their personal circumstances change and they become ineligible. Implementing a scheme which will enable current recipients to continue to receive the same award is subject to sufficient levels of funding being devolved.
- 2.5 The Scottish Government is seeking views on any potential new administration arrangements for distributing the resource following the Independent Living Fund's closure. The consultation's focus is on balancing the support requirements for existing users of ILF and those who are not in receipt of an ILF award; and how any potential new fund would provide support for disabled people who currently do not receive ILF.
- 2.6 The Scottish Government has identified four feasible options for future administration of the transferred funds.
- Local authorities to administer the Fund on a local basis in conjunction with their wider social care duties.
 - Scottish Government to administer the Fund on a national basis
 - Non Departmental Public Body to administer the Fund on a national basis
 - A new national trust or partnership with the third sector to administer the Fund on a national basis

The four identified 4 options have varied and quite diverse implications for service users and local authorities. It is not possible to determine these until a formal agreement is reached on the management of the transferred funds.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Council will maintain the current commitment to match funding of existing packages until the transfer of the funds has been determined by the Scottish Government.

- 3.2 It is proposed that the Corporate Director (Social Services & Health) prepares a response to the consultation which would be informed by Ayrshire Independent Living Network who would undertake consultation with service users on the Council's behalf.
- 3.3 The Cabinet is invited to (a) note the content of the report; and (b) authorise participation in the Scottish Government consultation process.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 It is not possible to determine the full implications for the Council at this stage. However, the Council will not exceed its budgeted expenditure.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 It is not possible to determine any implications for the Council at this stage.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 It is not possible to determine any implications for the Council at this stage.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 It is not possible to determine any implications for the Council at this stage.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 It is not possible to determine any implications for the Council at this stage.

Implications for Key Priorities

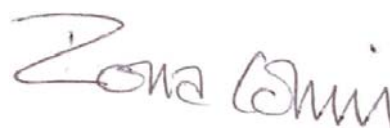
- 4.6 It is not possible to determine any implications for the Council at this stage.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 North Ayrshire Council have contributed to previous consultations around the ILF. We have had contact with the ILF directly as well as with the Scottish Government. Ayrshire Independent Living Network, a user led organisation, has secured funding to carry out a consultation event with service users on an Ayrshire wide basis. We will work alongside Ayrshire Independent Living Network to consult with service users this year.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The transfer of the ILF could have a significant effect on service users and the Council. While ongoing work is being carried out in partnership with other local authorities and ILF, and a programme of review is being carried out with existing ILF recipients, we await the outcome of the proposed consultation it is not possible to determine the level and impact of any changes.



IONA COLVIN

Corporate Director (Social Services and Health)

Reference : AB/LH

For further information please contact Alan Brown, Senior Manager, Social Services and Health on telephone number 01294 317794

Background Papers

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NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 13

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **North Ayrshire Carers Strategy**

Purpose: To seek Cabinet approval of the proposed Carers Strategy.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees to (a) approve the North Ayrshire Carers Strategy 2013-18; and (b) authorise implementation of its recommendations.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In April 2013, the Cabinet noted the draft North Ayrshire Carers Strategy and authorised wider consultation. The attached Draft Carers Strategy takes account of the outcome of the consultation (Appendix 1).

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The draft Carers Strategy builds on the existing work in North Ayrshire to support carers in their caring role. Examples of this work are detailed in the Strategy and demonstrate an innovative approach to providing a flexible service. In the financial year 2012 - 13, over 1,000 carers received respite amounting to;

- 6,189 respite weeks
- 13,983 total nights respite
- 220,022 hours of daytime respite (including day services)

2.2 Carers Strategy Principles

This is a high level overarching strategy which will inform all other North Ayrshire Council and partnership strategies to ensure that carer's rights and needs are addressed.

The principles that underpin North Ayrshire Council's Carers Strategy are: -

- Maximising carers mental, emotional and physical well-being.
- Increasing carers confidence in managing the caring role.
- Carers having the ability to combine caring responsibilities with work, social, leisure and life long learning opportunities; retaining a life outside of caring.

- Carers will not experience disadvantage or discrimination, including financial hardship, as a result of caring.
- Carers will be involved in planning and shaping the services required for the service user and the support for themselves.

2.2.1 To achieve this North Ayrshire Council aspires to deliver early, preventative, personalised support to families encouraging independence and confidence while directly aiding the carer.

The strategy is written in a style that makes it accessible to carers, including young carers, whilst identifying clear targets that will positively impact on the Carer outcomes.

The strategy:-

- defines who is a carer and who is a young carer,
- acknowledges partner responsibility to identify 'hidden carers',
- identifies how carers should be involved in the development of service plans and service improvement,
- prioritises the development of flexible planned breaks from caring,
- addresses carers health and well being and education and employability
- promotes Carers Assessments,
- identifies how personalisation impacts on carers and the implications of the Self Directed Support Bill.

2.2.2 The public consultation carried out on this document between April – June 2013 reported that 29.5% of respondents feel the most significant assistance is with accessible and accurate information and advice. Practical support was reported by 29.5% of carers as an equally significant method of assistance that can take the form of training for carers around moving and handling and medication and 28% felt breaks from the caring role are a priority.

2.2.3 The strategy will be regularly monitored and progress reported biannually to the Carers Advisory Group and Social Services and Health Governance Board and annually to the Council's Cabinet.

2.3 Carers Strategy Objectives

2.3.1 The Carers Strategy's objectives are detailed in the strategy document which is appended to this document.

2.3.2 Work with Young Carers and the whole family approach has been evidenced as effective in addressing the most complex need. Whole family approaches are a starting point in recognising the interdependence that most people have with those closest and most important to them. The Strategy advises that Carers should be recognised as individuals in their own right and in terms of planning should be grouped by age band rather than being categorised by the service user group that the person they care for is designated:-

- Young Carers – under 18 years of age
- Adult Carers – 18- 64 years of age
- Older Adult carers – 65 and over

2.3.3 Councillor Robert Steel has been assigned the role as Carers Champion for North Ayrshire. This will augment the priority attached to supporting carers in North Ayrshire. In particular the Carers Champion would retain oversight of the Council's contribution to the implementation of North Ayrshire's Carers Strategy. This role will be supported by a senior officer who has the lead responsibility for carers. While there is no statutory guidance regarding the establishment of a Carers' Champion it is considered by the Scottish Government to be one mechanism open to Councils to reinforce their commitment to supporting and valuing carers.

2.3.4 The Carers Champion will chair the proposed North Ayrshire Carers Strategy Advisory Group which will be made up of representatives from service users, carers, NAC and NHS Ayrshire & Arran, staff group and representatives from the 3rd Sector. This group will monitor and provide advice on how we continue to take forward the Carers Strategy in North Ayrshire and be a reference point for future strategies and service developments to ensure they are consistent with the Carers Strategy principles and objectives.

3. Proposals

3.1 The Cabinet is asked to note the outcome of the consultation and to approve the Carers Strategy for North Ayrshire.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

4.1 Carers are the largest source of care and support in Scotland and it is estimated that it would cost £7.6 billion to replace the care they provide (University of Leeds 2008). It makes good fiscal sense to provide support to carers to enable them to continue caring.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 The Human Resource implications will be addressed through the Service Redesign.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 Social Care (Self-Directed Support) (Scotland) Act received Royal Assent in January 2013. It places self directed support (SDS) into a legislative framework, and stipulates the forms of SDS that must be offered by local authorities to those assessed as requiring community care services, namely: direct payments; directing the available resource; local authority arranged support; or a mix of the first three options.

The legislation also creates a new power to provide a support service to carers in their own right as opposed to previous situation when any service was reliant on the service user receiving a care package.

The Carers Strategy addresses these requirements.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 The Strategy intends to minimise disadvantage to unpaid carers in North Ayrshire. The strategy aims to identify unpaid carers as soon as possible and be able to put in place support structures that allow them to remain a carer while achieving personal outcomes outwith their caring role.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications at this stage.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 The proposals within this report will contribute to the North Ayrshire Single Outcome Agreement priority area of a Healthy and an Active North Ayrshire.

Community Benefit Implications

- 4.7 There are no community benefit implications.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 The Strategy has been jointly drafted with NHS Ayrshire & Arran and Council colleagues, third sector carer support groups, Unity Enterprises Enable Scotland as well as carers.

5.2 Effective communication is central to successfully engaging carers as key partners. We have established partnership links with;

- NHS Ayrshire and Arran in particular the Public Partnership forum,
- Service user and carer reference groups,
- The third sector including Unity Enterprises
- Service user forums.

5.3 There was a public consultation on the draft Strategy between April and June 2013. 165 individuals responded, of which 50 identified themselves as carers. There was a positive response with 92% agreeing with the principles underpinning the Strategy. All of the carers who responded agreed with the definition of a carer which will be used in North Ayrshire.

Significantly 65% of carers felt they would be motivated to request an assessment as a result of this strategy.

A full report on the outcome of the consultation will be published on navigate alongside the Carers Strategy.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The North Ayrshire Carers Strategy updates existing strategies in line with recent legislative and policy changes. It will build on existing provision to continue to develop flexible services that have a clear focus on supporting informal carers in their caring role.



IONA COLVIN

Corporate Director (Social Services and Health)

Reference : LH/AB

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Background Papers

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NORTH AYRSHIRE

CARERS STRATEGY

2013-2018

FINAL DRAFT Version 1

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Preface

By Carers Champion

FINAL DRAFT

Introduction

The Carers Strategy and the work done with carers are underpinned by the principles of equality, diversity and human rights.

Based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, all individuals who care for a relative, friend or neighbour have an established set of rights which include:

- The right to social security and to economic, social, and cultural rights
- The right to work, to free choice of employment, to equal pay for equal work, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment
- The right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay
- The right to a standard of living adequate for health and wellbeing
- The right to training and education
- The right to participate in culture, arts and science and benefit from them
- The right to take part in governance and to access services

(Care21: The Future of Unpaid Care in Scotland; Scottish Executive 2005)

North Ayrshire works to ensure that no carer is disadvantaged due to gender, age, disability, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation. Furthermore North Ayrshire will work to ensure carers have the support they need to maintain a healthy lifestyle, their own wellbeing and have breaks from caring.

‘Historically there has often been too much of a divide between the user and the carer, whereas the physical and emotional wellbeing of both are inextricably linked.’

Dame Phillippa Russell, Chair – Standing Commission on Carers.

(HM Government Recognised, Valued and Supported, Next Steps for the Carers Strategy – November 2010)

The North Ayrshire Joint Planning Group (Community Care) produced a “Strategy for Carers Services 2003/2004”. The purpose of this was to identify key priorities for developing services for carers, aged 18 or over, who provided informal or unpaid care in North Ayrshire. A number of new policy drivers, initiatives, guidance and strategies have since come into force.

A Community Health Partnership (CHP) Forum sub-group was formed to produce a new strategy with a clear focus on positive outcomes for carers. A Carers Strategy scoping paper published in December 2010 detailed demographic information, and services received by carers and those that they believed would be most useful from a Social Work Inspection Agency (SWIA) Carers Survey published in 2007.

This document is a high-level overarching strategy which will inform all other North Ayrshire strategies to ensure that carers' rights and needs are fully heard, considered and addressed.

The recommendations identified (see Appendix i) will assist the achievement of the strategy outcomes. Progress on these will be reported on a six monthly basis, with an annual report providing outline priorities for the following year which are required to take forward the strategy. A range of methods will be utilised to ensure the meaningful involvement of carers and carers' organisations.



Principles

The principles that underpin North Ayrshire's Carers Strategy are:

1. Maximising carers' mental, emotional and physical wellbeing.
2. Increasing carers' confidence in managing the caring role.
3. Carers having the ability to combine caring responsibilities with work, social, leisure and life long learning opportunities; retaining a life outside of caring.
4. Carers will not experience disadvantage or discrimination, including financial hardship, as a result of caring.
5. Carers will be involved in planning and shaping the services required for the service user and the support for themselves.

To achieve this North Ayrshire aspires to deliver early, preventative, personalised support to families encouraging independence and confidence while directly aiding the carer.

Who is a Carer?

Caring touches every family in North Ayrshire and it is almost impossible to predict who or when someone will become a carer and the impact it will have on the person. The caring role can be varied; it could be for a short time whilst the person recovers from an illness or injury, or could become a lifetime role. As a result, caring could have an impact on the financial, physical, social and emotional or psychological wellbeing of the carer.

For the purpose of North Ayrshire this strategy will focus on defining our carers as:

Individuals of all ages who provide or intend to provide on a regular basis, significant or substantial caring tasks, including assistance or support to a friend, relative or neighbour without receiving payment.

Scottish Household Survey 2007/08 figures estimated that there are 18,921 unpaid carers in North Ayrshire providing a level of care to a person in need.

The North Ayrshire Carers' Centre has 4,125 unpaid carers registered as at 31st July 2013 who can be divided as follows:

Table 1

Table 1 represents the number of unpaid carers registered in North Ayrshire by gender. There are 630 male unpaid carers and 1587 female unpaid carers with 117 as not stating their gender.

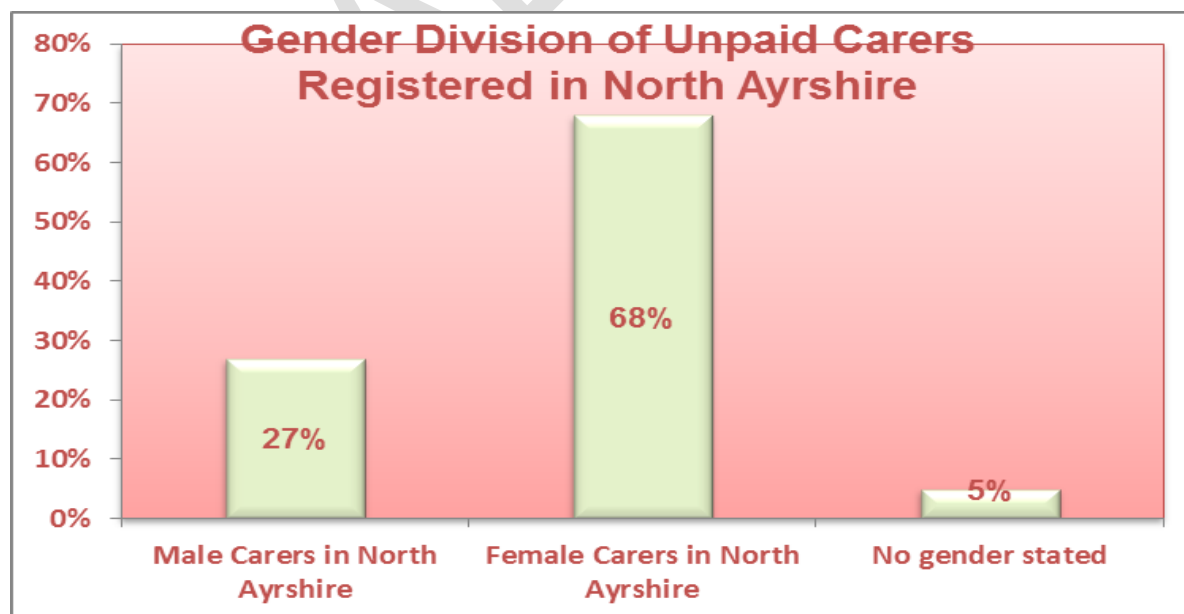


Table 2

Traditionally support has been linked to the service user or care group regardless of the age of the carer, and any support provided has been in the context of the individual who is cared for. North Ayrshire Carers' Centre figures illustrate below that the majority of carers (33%) in North Ayrshire are aged 36 – 59 years.

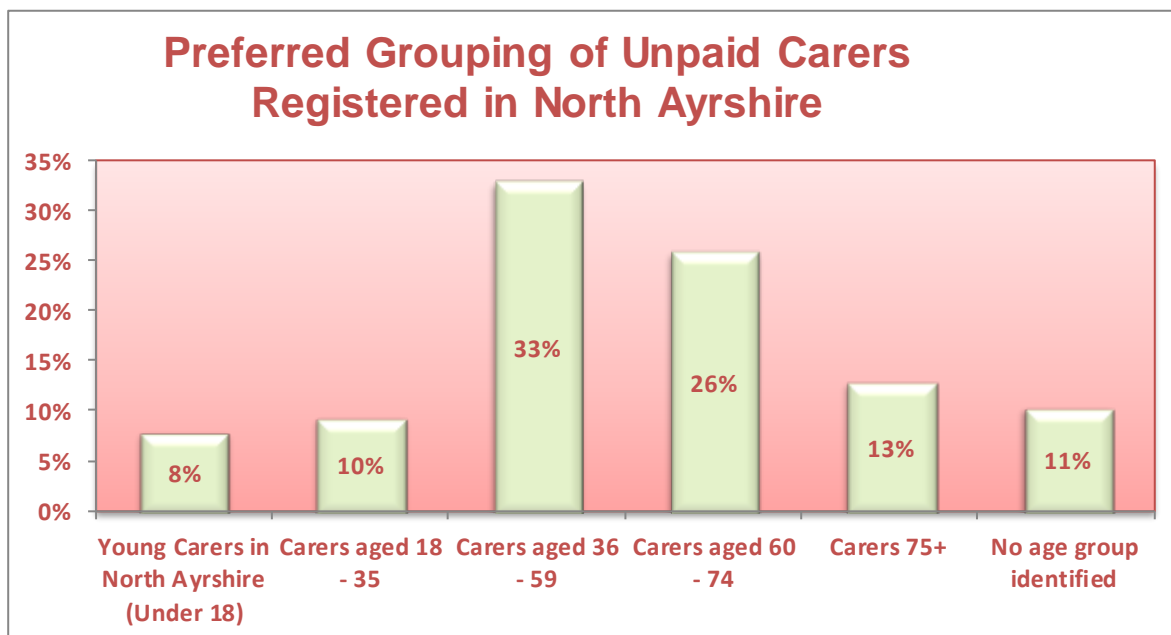
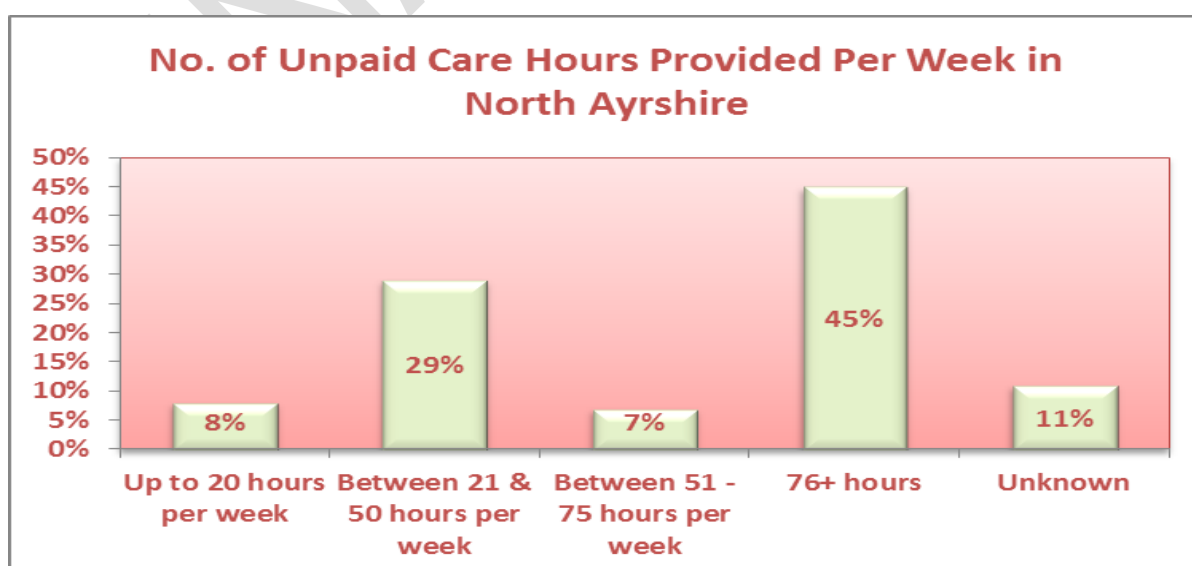


Table 3

Table 3 shows that almost half of unpaid carers registered in North Ayrshire are providing more than 76 hours of care to a family member or friend in need of assistance. This covers a number of tasks such as safety, personal care, socialisation, health and nutrition to name only a few. This equates to 1,050 registered carers in North Ayrshire.



These figures do not include the volume of hidden carers in North Ayrshire. Figures reported in the Scottish Household Survey 2007/08 show that there is still a substantial quantity unrecognised.

Cavaye's book "Hidden Carers" (2006) highlights that the provision of support services for carers has been a longstanding key social policy objective. This maintains support through service intervention and has been found to reduce carers' stress levels, improve the quality of life and prevent the breakdown of care.

North Ayrshire will continue to ensure that there is equality across cultures and communities and diversity for carers with distinct needs that differentiate them from other carers such as language, spirituality or sexuality. In conjunction with the Ayrshire Minority Ethnic Communities Association (AMECA) and a number of more localised groups (Appendix ii) North Ayrshire can facilitate a flexible approach to working with individual care groups and establish approaches to meet carers' needs.

RECOMMENDATION A – WHO IS A CARER?

- All partners will work together to identify carers in North Ayrshire and provide them with the appropriate advice and support to assist the strategic planning of services.
- To distribute the Carers Strategy across North Ayrshire.
- Carers Advisory Group will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Carers Strategy throughout North Ayrshire.
- To recognise and work with new and existing carers across various cultures and communities by liaising with different cultural support groups.

A Young Carer in North Ayrshire is a child or young person aged under 18 who has a significant role in looking after someone else who is experiencing illness or disability.

(Getting it right for Young Carers – The Young Carers Strategy for Scotland 2010 – 2015)

Caring tasks for young carers can include:

- Emotional support
- Domestic tasks
- General care
- Personal care
- Child care

The impact of their caring role is often reflected in young carers' school attendance, academic progress, social isolation and often in their physical and emotional health. It should also be recognised that young carers have particular needs at the time of transition into adulthood.

The impact of caring on young carers can be significant but may go unnoticed. In 2007/08, the Scottish Household Survey identified 18,921 carers in Scotland. Young carers in North Ayrshire account for only 8% (81 young people) of the total number of carers registered with the North Ayrshire Carers Centre. This is suggestive of a number of hidden young carers which compromises the true extent of care provided by young carers.

By identifying, assessing and supporting young carers, agencies and practitioners can relieve them of inappropriate caring roles and enable them to be children and young people first and foremost. Adult services holistic assessment and support for the cared for person can be one of the most effective ways of ensuring that young carers are relieved of inappropriate caring roles.

The Scottish Government produced 'Getting it Right for Young Carers: The Young Carers Strategy for Scotland 2010-15' as it acknowledged that young carers' needs can be different from adult carers and that many of the responses also need to be different.

The strategy promotes the GIRFEC approach which takes a unified approach for practitioners across all agencies, providing a framework and practice culture for assessment and person centred planning. A range of support is necessary to address young carer's needs. North Ayrshire Integrated Children's Services

Partnership has undertaken self-evaluation of our multi-agency partnership approach for Young Carers in line with GIRFEC and the Young Carers Strategy for Scotland.

An Action Plan is now being developed to ensure that we improve: identification of young carers; processes between adult and children's services to identify young carers; ensure GIRFEC and ASN processes appropriately support young carers; and review the range of provision available in North Ayrshire to support young carers.

RECOMMENDATION B – YOUNG CARERS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All partners will actively identify and be supportive of the caring role which young carers are required to balance with education and age appropriate social development.• Improve identification of young carers by employing GIRFEC training and practice.• Review the range of supports available in North Ayrshire to meet the needs of young carers.• Improve liaison and transitional procedures from Adult to Children's Services to ensure timely identification and intervention.• Ensure carers are identified by age rather than the service they are categorised by.

North Ayrshire Council has a duty to inform all carers providing 'regular and substantial care' of their legal entitlement to a carer's assessment under the Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act 2004 and Children (Scotland) Act 1995, regardless of whether the cared for person is being assessed.

Carers should automatically be offered an assessment when the people they care for are being assessed, or following a review. Throughout the service user assessment process where a carer is involved, due to the collaborative approach a range of information is automatically collated to inform a Carer's Assessment.

Carers can also request an assessment at any time, especially if their circumstances alter and impacts upon their caring responsibilities.

The North Ayrshire Council Carers' Assessment identifies the information and support needed to enable people to continue in their caring role. The assessment can result in resources to support the carer and should be designed to empower carers to make the most of their potential and opportunities to achieve good outcomes.

The Support Plan included in the North Ayrshire Council Self-directed Support Toolkit also captures contingency planning as an intervention to help prevent or cope with emergencies that can put the caring role on hold. Having the Support Plan in place can help ease the worry of not being able to care for the person you look after at any point in the future.

In North Ayrshire for the reporting year 2012/2013, it is noted that 86 carer's assessments were completed by Social Services with 76 of these noting that support was required.

RECOMMENDATION C – CARER'S ASSESSMENT

- Partners remain committed to ensuring that all carers are informed of their entitlement and offered carer's assessments.
- All agencies should improve their performance in offering carers an assessment in their own right.
- All agencies should put in place procedures to systematically measure outcomes for people who use services and carers.

Involving Carers

In North Ayrshire it is recognised that carers are a significant asset in supporting the efforts to maintain people in their local communities and it is in everyone's interest to ensure that unpaid carers are properly supported.

Carers have a wealth of knowledge and experience and as such make a valuable contribution in terms of practical and emotional expertise. It is very important carers are involved meaningfully in the decision-making processes that affect their caring responsibilities and in the development of health and social care services.

“An effective community based approach is achieved when Councils and their partners actively involve people, carers, families and communities in the design, development, delivery and review of innovative care and support arrangements to maximise the choice and independence and utilise the widest range of resource.”

(Putting People First Consortium (2010) Think local, act personal; Next steps for transforming adult social care.)

Carers Advisory Group

North Ayrshire Council has supported a Carers Strategy Advisory Group since October 2010 as a part of the Community Health Partnership. The membership includes North Ayrshire Council, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, North Ayrshire Carers Centre, Enable and most importantly carers.

The advisory group employs a collaborative approach to ensure that localised carers views are listened to and recognised. It also provides the opportunity for carers to make a difference to the standard of care and support services in North Ayrshire for them and the people they care for.

With the introduction of the Carers Champion, part of this role will be to chair the Carers Strategy Advisory Group helping to ensure robust accountability.

Participation Strategy

North Ayrshire Council Social Services are in the process of developing a Participation Strategy. The aim of this Participation Strategy is to direct the service, its staff, and partners in coordinating the participation and involvement of those who access Social Care Services.

This will enhance engagement and consultation in a collaborative way with all carers and the people they care for in order that they can contribute meaningfully to ensure services are right for them.

Care groups will be able to develop participation plans to meet their needs, and those of service users and carers according to their service plans.

North Ayrshire Council and NHS Ayrshire & Arran have provided financial support to the North Ayrshire Carers Centre for some years. The Carers Centre, which is located in the High Street in Irvine, provides support and training as well as both local and national information for carers. This service is part of the continuum of care available to unpaid carers and promotes mutual support.

This document reflects the wide range of issues which have an impact on a carer's ability to continue their role without jeopardising their physical and mental wellbeing. As well as core support services, such as respite care and the provision of information and advice, carers have particular needs in areas as diverse as having an adequate income, access to life long learning/employment and suitable housing.

RECOMMENDATION D – INVOLVING CARERS

- Continue to consult with carers/carers' groups on the practical supports they have found most useful and those they currently believe are absent in order to develop the most appropriate practical support.
- Explore the impact of Self-Directed Support on carer's outcomes.
- Ensure support and advocacy for carers is easily accessible, culturally appropriate and sensitive to a diverse range of needs to enable carers to continue in their caring role.
- Re-establish Carers Advisory Group and agree remit.
- To develop with partners a responsive, culturally appropriate, varied training programme across North Ayrshire to increase the knowledge base and skills of carers.
- All agencies to continue to strive for joined up services for carers in order to improve communication and seamless pathways for carers.
- Agree the role of the Carers Champion.

Caring is a universal activity and an integral part of the day-to-day lives of thousands of people, with many not requiring any additional support to continue with the caring role outside of their own support networks. However, circumstances arise in everyone's life that may affect their ability to continue, in the short or long term, to provide such support, and it is at that point that people require accessible information, advice and sign-posting.

The public consultation carried out on this document between May – June 2013 reported that 29.5% of respondents feel the most significant assistance is with accessible and accurate information and advice. Information, advice and sign-posting are currently available in different formats and languages and are readily available in local social service offices, primary health care settings and from the North Ayrshire Carers Centre.

- **CareNA**

North Ayrshire Council has developed a Community Portal: Care and Support North Ayrshire or 'CareNA'. This important new development will connect service users to service providers to allow them make the most of their self-directed support options, make informed decisions and manage their care and support.

- **North Ayrshire Council Dementia Services**

The Dementia Support Service provides advice, information and specialist support to address the unique needs of people living with dementia and their carer's. Support is provided at home, in the local community or within our memory cafés on a short-term basis.

Mr Stevenston was visited by the Dementia Support Worker at home and he said:

"The support worker explained what services were available and later assisted me to access respite for my wife which was of great benefit; through this service I have also been able to meet other carers."

Practical support was reported by 29.5% of carers as an equally significant method of assistance that can take the form of:

- People coming to the home of the person you care for to help with their care, including overnight stays.
- Help the person you care for to go to organised activities, where they can be cared for and assist in socialisation.
- Respite in the form of a residential respite or supported short break.

- Adaptations to the home of the person you care for i.e. telecare or assisted technology to help them with daily tasks.
- Legal and financial advice – you and/or the person you care for may be entitled to income maximisation or benefits that you are unaware of.
- Mobility, as there are various schemes that offer people and their carers access to transport.

There are a number of key organisations and partners supporting carers in North Ayrshire (Please see Appendix i). These active partnerships will be the means by which carers will be supported, informed and included in order to continue in their caring role.

• **Anam Cara – Dementia Respite Service**

Anam Cara provides a short stay residential respite to people aged 60 years or over with a diagnosis or probable diagnosis of dementia. This can be from one night up to fourteen nights depending upon individual circumstances.

The service offers a range of opportunities to encourage personal, social and spiritual activities within Anam Cara and the local community.

Planned respite gives guests and carer's the opportunity to visit Anam Cara prior to a stay to encourage familiarity with the setting and ensure staff have gathered appropriate information about skills, abilities, likes and dislikes or personal preferences. Regular respite affords the opportunity for carer's and the cared for person to take planned breaks away from their caring role.

The contribution of carers to society is fully recognised; the economic impact of their contribution accepted, and as such they will be wholly included in a society which will provide:

- Flexible employment practices
- Adequate financial support and planning
- Accessible information and technology
- Practical support
- Regular breaks from caring
- Adequate housing
- Training and health care
- Good transport links
- Accessible leisure and recreational opportunities.

North Ayrshire communities will support carers to be people first and unpaid carers will be afforded the opportunity to choose when and how they care and be supported to fulfil their potential as citizens.

It will encourage unpaid caring to be recognised as a positive life choice, which is underpinned by the human conditions of empathy and devotion to the cared for person. There is recognition of and respect for unpaid carers as key partners in the planning, design and delivery of care.

The public consultation asked North Ayrshire carers by which means they would prefer to be identified rather than being categorised by the person they care for. The responses reported that 30.8% would appreciate being recognised under the type of support they require as a carer. However, 50.7% of carers would prefer to be identified by age group. The age categories offered need slight adjustment as such, carers can be considered as:

- Under 18 years of age (Young Carers)
- 18 – 66 (Adult Carers)
- 67 + (Older Carers)

- **Enable Scotland**

Enable Scotland's Lifelong Carers project is one which aims to provide support to people over 50 years of age in North Ayrshire who are caring for relatives with a learning disability. The Family Life Planning Tool will help carers and their families to improve their quality of day-to-day life. The project also strives to improve co-ordination between carers and various local services and voluntary organisations.

Carers Champion

The Carers champion will ensure sufficient priority is attached to supporting carers in North Ayrshire. This role will be supported by a senior officer with lead responsibility for carers.

The Champion will retain oversight of the Council's contribution to the implementation of North Ayrshire's Carers Strategy and chair the Carers Strategy Advisory Group helping to ensure robust accountability. While there is no statutory guidance regarding the establishment of a Carers Champion it is considered by the current Government to be one mechanism open to Councils to reinforce their commitment to supporting and valuing carers.

The strategy aims to support all carers to enable them to continue in their caring role. Monitoring information advises there is a lower uptake from the black and minority ethnic communities, young carers and men in relation to carer support services.

All actions in the strategy look to address the gender imbalance and to improve the uptake of services across the spectrum of ages and communities.

RECOMMENDATION E – SUPPORTING CARERS

- View carers as people first and support them to fulfil their potential as citizens of North Ayrshire.
- As key partners carers' groups are an important resource in promoting the importance of effective communication, relaying pertinent information to carers, promoting the services and supports which are available and highlighting developments that they would wish to see evolve.
- Support carers in the manner that best suits them as individuals taking into consideration the consultation responses of a) accurate and current information and advice, b) practical support c) regular breaks from caring
- Holistic assessment and support process for the cared for person to ensure that carers, in particular young carers, are relieved of inappropriate caring roles.

Breaks from Caring

Positive outcomes for carers will occur when they receive regular breaks from caring. This may also prevent any possible future breakdown in the caring relationship. It is important to acknowledge that carers may also need to combine their caring role with other family activities or responsibilities.

Breaks from caring is the third most significant form of assistance (16.4%) next to information and practical support reported by carers in the public consultation of this strategy.

Respite provision in 2012 - 13 was recorded as follows in North Ayrshire and applied to 1,130 clients in total across the services. 56% were male and 44% female with the greatest level of service being utilised by adults aged 18 - 64 years.

- 6,189 respite weeks
- 13,983 total nights respite

220,022 hours of daytime respite (including day services)

• North Ayrshire Council – Breaks from Caring

North Ayrshire Council recognises the developments of Personalisation and is evolving in line with the move to more personalised services. This will allow individuals increased options when considering a break from their caring role. Carers and the person(s) they care for can experience choice and more flexible solutions resulting in improved outcomes in relation to respite and short breaks.

Carers also have confidence to plan holidays for themselves with assurance that the person that they normally care for will have all their needs met while they are away. People have choice in where to go and what to do for each break from caring.

"For the first time I can book a holiday in the knowledge my daughter is being well cared for."

North Ayrshire Carers' Centre Young Carers' Support Service offers a wide range of different supports to young people aged 8 to 25 years to help support them in both their caring role and their own life outwith their home. Young carers are divided into age groups and meet fortnightly offering an opportunity to interact with other young people in a safe and friendly environment. The young carers benefit from a number of supports including:

- Educational support/better understanding of circumstances affecting the family
- Local community groups aiding socialisation
- One-to-one support to assist with self confidence and esteem
- PSE awareness lessons in schools to raise the profile of young carers
- Outreach services for rural areas

• North Ayrshire Carers Centre Young Carers' Support Service

"We recently took our young carers on a five-day sailing trip around the West Coast of Scotland.

This experience was life-changing for everyone who took part. It taught the young people how to work as a strong team and how to respect the commands of the crew along the way. As well as seeing some dolphins and whales the young people got to take part in something which they may not get a chance to do due to their caring role.

On the last day of the trip we all gathered together to discuss the overall experience and every young person said that even though it had only been five days they felt dramatically different to how they had before we went, with many maturing during our time away. This experience has also led to great opportunities for the young carers to volunteer within the OYT and flourish in a field they are now very passionate about."

(Deborah McKean – North Ayrshire Carers Centre)

RECOMMENDATION F – BREAKS FROM CARING

- Build on the existing short break services provided in North Ayrshire to offer personalised, flexible breaks from caring to all eligible carers and young carers.
- Improve the planning of short breaks services.
- Involve carers and the cared for person in determining the shape, direction and level of local short break provision.
- Shift the balance towards preventative support.
- Personalise support to improve outcomes both for carers and those with care needs.

Carers and Self Directed Support

Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013

North Ayrshire Council has a duty to take into account the new Self-directed Support Act and is already responsible for making sure people who need it get social care support. This will help people who are disabled or need support for other reasons to stay as independent as they can and continue to have a good life.

The Act makes changes as to how North Ayrshire Council will do that and provides the following general principles to follow when they are assessing what people need and when providing or arranging care:

- Involvement – as much involvement as each person wants
- Informed choice – providing each person with the assistance they reasonably need to give their views about the options for self-directed support, and then to make an informed choice when choosing a type of self-directed support
- Collaboration – working with the person around the assessment of what support and services they need, and the provision of services

The main group of people who will benefit is people who need social care for themselves. However, the Act also applies to adults who are carers and can use a form of self-directed support to assist their role as a carer. The arrangements for carers to have choice in the arrangements for the support they get is the same as for people getting support for themselves and is provided via the following four options:

- Direct Payment
- Individual Service Fund
- Local Authority arranged support
- Mixture of the above three options

Other duties include the provision of information and advice to help people make informed choices and manage supports. Those who may have difficulty in choosing the best option are provided with the necessary support to do so.

The Act seeks to modernise and consolidate current legislation on direct payments to make it more flexible in order to respond to individuals' needs.

Carers' Health & Wellbeing

Whilst most carers undertake the role willingly, it must be recognised that caring can be very demanding and can negatively impact on people's physical and emotional wellbeing. There is a clear link between poor health and caring that increases with the duration and intensity of the caring role. It is important that carers take care of their own health and are able to access healthcare and other forms of support that will assist them to maintain their own wellbeing. Carers are twice as likely to suffer ill health as those not providing care.

(*'In Poor Health: the impact of caring on health'* (2004) Carers UK)

- **NHS Carers Information Strategy**

The NHS Carers Information Strategy monies will continue to fund a number of initiatives to support the information, support, training and health and wellbeing needs of carers in North Ayrshire. Examples include:

- a) The continued commissioning of support services and training from North Ayrshire Carers' Centre to improve the health and wellbeing of carers.
- b) The development of an information booklet for carers entitled 'Information for carers of people receiving NHS health care', which provides sign-posting to information on carers' rights, carer's assessment, the support available from local carers' centres and other useful sources of information for carers.

In relation to the early identification of 'hidden carers', GPs and other primary care professionals are well placed to identify carers and alert them to sources of advice and support. The initial point of contact for many carers is health related.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran and North Ayrshire Carers' Centre are working together to identify and support carers through a number of GP Practices. A GP Support and Development Worker is based in North Ayrshire with the main objective to identify carers in the local area to provide practical support and sign-posting to access the North Ayrshire Carers' Centre. This resource has and will continue to:

- Deliver awareness raising and sign-posting training, to both clinical and administrative staff.
- Carry out a mail-shot to all patients aged 16 and older within each participating practice.
- Carry out full registration for all carers identified, including benefits advice, carers health needs assessed, appropriate referrals for carer's assessment.
- Maintain contact with key individuals within each participating practice to ensure referral pathways to the North Ayrshire Carers' Centre are firmly embedded.
- Take action to support young carers where identified.
- Take every opportunity to raise the awareness of NHS staff regarding the needs of carers.

It is hoped that funding will be secured to enable this service to be offered to all GP practices during 2013/14.

- **Young Carers Authorisation Pilot Card**

NHS Ayrshire & Arran is working in partnership with the North Ayrshire Carers' Centre and the Scottish Government during 2013/14 to pilot a 'Young Carers' Authorisation Card'.

The pilot will enable young carers to be issued with an ID card that identifies them as a young carer. It further provides them with the appropriate level of consent from the cared-for person to enable them to have access to the information they need, and to be included in discussions about the cared-for person with health professionals.

In North Ayrshire, young carers participating in scheme will the card will also be offered free and/or reduced rate entry to KA Leisure facilities as a means of respite and encouraging improved health and wellbeing. It is envisaged that, should the card evaluate well, that it would be rolled out during 2014/15.

- **The Keep Well Programme**

The Keep Well Programme has been running in Ayrshire and Arran since 2008 and aims to identify people who may be at risk of developing heart disease or diabetes to offer them advice, support and treatment to improve their health. The Keep Well health checks are targeted at individuals aged 40 to 64 years living within the 20% most deprived areas in North Ayrshire.

This service is now being actively targeted to carers. Eligible individuals can receive a free Keep Well health check at their local GP practice or from a trained Health and Wellbeing Advisor in the community. The health check looks at things such as blood pressure, diet, cholesterol and also provides an opportunity to ask about any other health related issues.

- **Medication Management**

Pharmacies are also in a pivotal position to establish contact with carers who often collect repeat prescriptions for the person they care for, if not themselves. A training proposal is being provided for both paid and unpaid carers in the delivery of medication management.

RECOMMENDATION G – CARERS HEALTH & WELLBEING
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To work with other agencies to develop and increase access to services which would improve the health and wellbeing of carers, including young carers; for example – KA Leisure.• NHS Ayrshire & Arran to implement Carers Information Strategy throughout health services, supporting the identification of hidden carers and informing of the supports available.

Carers Employability

North Ayrshire partners concur with the importance of carer employment, skills development and lifelong learning.

Legislation and policy in Scotland secures carers the right to leave from work to take care of emergencies and caring crises via the Employment Relations Act 1999; their right to request flexible working arrangements; and their right to a Carer's Assessment which acknowledges their desire to learn and work as well as to care. These recent changes have placed new statutory obligations on local authorities, employers and others.

In addition, the Equality Act 2010 expanded the rights of carers, 'discrimination by association' and 'direct discrimination'. An employer cannot treat carers less favourably or refuse to offer employment because of caring responsibilities.

The Scottish Government, through skills development, economic policies, and the promotion of carer-friendly working practices, can support carers to remain in, or return to, employment or to take up lifelong learning opportunities.

The Jobcentre Plus programme in Scotland Work Focused Support for Carers has operated since December 2009 for all carers who:

- Are aged 18 or over
- Are not working or working less than 16 hours per week
- Who spend a significant proportion of their lives caring
- Are not eligible for any other Jobcentre Plus employment programme.

Work Focused Support for Carers provides help and advice for people to make a successful move into work, when the time is right. It is an optional service which people can choose to take part in or stop at any time.

Individuals will receive help and support from a Jobcentre Plus personal adviser. This might include:

- Help preparing for work
- Help to find suitable training
- Support in looking for and applying for a job; and
- Help with the costs of travel, childcare, replacement care and course costs when you're taking part in training or interviews agreed with Jobcentre Plus.

For carers, some of the main concerns noted in relation to learning and employment are:

- Financial implications of having to give up paid employment to undertake the caring role

- The importance of accessing a high quality, appropriate service/package of care in order to combine training & development or employment with their caring role
- Carers lack of confidence in the ability of statutory agencies
- What happens if their caring role ends?

Within North Ayrshire there are a number of access points to locate support and guidance to apply and enter into education, training or employment. A full list is attached in appendix ii.

RECOMMENDATION H – CARERS & EMPLOYABILITY

- Understand the diversity, equality and potential disadvantages of the caring role.
- Ensure carers have choice in accessing education and employability across all ages and are supported to make decisions about the practical issues, alternatives and possible consequences.
- Assistance in providing accessible and flexible support for working carers.
- Partnerships should continue to promote and implement good employment policies and practice for carers.

NORTH AYRSHIRE CARERS STRATEGY ACTION PLAN	APPENDIX i
RECOMMENDATION A – WHO IS A CARER?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All partners will work together to identify carers in North Ayrshire and provide them with the appropriate advice and support to assist the strategic planning of services. • To distribute the Carers Strategy across North Ayrshire. • Carers Advisory Group will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Carers Strategy throughout North Ayrshire. • To recognise and work with new and existing carers across various cultures and communities by liaising with different cultural support groups.
RECOMMENDATION B - YOUNG CARERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All partners will actively identify and be supportive of the caring role which young carers are required to balance with education and age appropriate social development. • Review the service provision to young carers. Ensuring support is provided timeously and appropriately to young carers when requested. • Improve identification of young carers by employing GIRFEC training and practice. • Review the range of supports available in North Ayrshire to meet the needs of young carers. • Improve liaison and transitional procedures from Adult to Children's Services to ensure timely identification and intervention. • Ensure carers are identified by age rather than the service they are categorised by.

NORTH AYRSHIRE CARERS STRATEGY ACTION PLAN	APPENDIX I
RECOMMENDATION C – CARERS ASSESSMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners remain committed to ensuring that all carers are informed of their entitlement and offered carer's assessments. • All agencies should improve their performance in offering carers an assessment in their own right. • All agencies should put in place procedures to systematically measure outcomes for people who use services and carers.
RECOMMENDATION D – INVOLVING CARERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to consult with carers/carers' groups on the practical supports they have found most useful and those they currently believe are absent in order to develop the most appropriate practical support. • Explore the impact of Self-Directed Support on carer's outcomes. • Ensure support and advocacy for carers is easily accessible, culturally appropriate and sensitive to a diverse range of needs to enable carers to continue in their caring role. • Re-establish Carers Advisory Group and agree remit. • To develop with partners a responsive, culturally appropriate, varied training programme across North Ayrshire to increase the knowledge base and skills of carers. • All agencies to continue to strive for joined up services for carers in order to improve communication and seamless pathways for carers. <p>Agree the role of the Carers Champion.</p>

NORTH AYRSHIRE CARERS STRATEGY ACTION PLAN	APPENDIX I
RECOMMENDATION E – SUPPORTING CARERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • View carers as people first and support them to fulfil their potential as citizens of North Ayrshire. • As key partners carers' groups are an important resource in promoting the importance of effective communication, relaying pertinent information to carers, promoting the services and supports which are available and highlighting developments that they would wish to see evolve. • Support carers in the manner that best suits them as individuals taking into consideration the consultation responses of a) accurate and current information and advice, b) practical support c) regular breaks from caring • Holistic assessment and support process for the cared for person to ensure that carers, in particular young carers, are relieved of inappropriate caring roles.
RECOMMENDATION F – BREAKS FROM CARING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on the existing short break services provided in North Ayrshire to offer short breaks to all eligible carers and young carers • Improve the planning of short breaks services. • Involve carers and the cared for person in determining the shape, direction and level of local short break provision. • Shift the balance towards preventative support. • Personalise support to improve outcomes both for carers and those with care needs.
RECOMMENDATION G – CARERS HEALTH & WELLBEING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work with other agencies to develop and increase access to services which would improve the health and wellbeing of carers, including young carers; for example – KA Leisure. • NHS Ayrshire & Arran to implement Carers Information Strategy throughout health services, supporting the identification of hidden carers and informing of the supports available.

NORTH AYRSHIRE CARERS STRATEGY ACTION PLAN	APPENDIX i
RECOMMENDATION H – CARERS EMPLOYABILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand the diversity, equality and potential disadvantages of the caring role. • Ensure carers have choice in accessing education and employability across all ages and are supported to make decisions about the practical issues, alternatives and possible consequences. • Assistance in providing accessible and flexible support for working carers. • Partnerships should continue to promote and implement good employment policies and practice for carers.

USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS IF YOU ARE A CARER WHO LIVES IN NORTH AYRSHIRE			APPENDIX ii
Access Ability Ardrossan – 01294 470480	Arran Parents Support Group Brodick – 01770 850264	Children 1st Irvine – 01294 317191	Dementia Services – Kerry Rennie Kilbirnie – 01505 684362
Add it Up Irvine – 01294 311141	Barnardo's North Ayrshire Kilwinning – 01294 550400	Citizens Advice Bureau North Ayrshire – 0808 800 9060	Dirrans Head Injury Kilwinning – 01294 552771
Age Concern Ardrossan – 01294 822380 Irvine – 01294 212354 Kilbirnie – 01505 683646 Largs – 01294 674268	Befriending & Respite Services Irvine – 01294 318594	CLASP Stevenston – 01294 602711	Douglas Grant Rehab Centre MS, MND, Stroke, Parkinson's Irvine – 01294 323030
AIMS Advocacy Saltcoats – 01294 608663	Care Partners Ardrossan – 01294 607111	Clyde Coast MS Therapy Centre West Kilbride – 01294 823351	District Nurses Out of Hours – 01563 545544
All Abilities Park Kilwinning – 01294 551776	Carers Allowance Unit 0845 608 4321	Community Horizons Irvine – 01294 312242	Enable Lifelong Carers Irvine – 01294 222303
Alzheimer Scotland Ardrossan – 01294 469955 Irvine – 01394 323259	Carers Centre (North Ayrshire) Irvine – 01294 311333	Crossroads Caring Scotland Ardrossan – 01294 601447 Largs – 01475 674735	Fresh Air-Shire North Ayrshire – 0800 783 9132
AMECA Irvine – 01294 538405	CHAP Ardrossan – 01294 475636	Cunninghame Housing Ardrossan – 01294 468360	Impact Arts Irvine – 01294 273051
IMPACCT Respite Irvine – 01294 311505	North Ayrshire Council Irvine – 0845 603 0590	Skills Development Scotland 0808 100 1050	Ticker Talk Irvine – 01294 469996
Irvine Carers Support Irvine – 01294 311333	Pegasus Club Irvine – 01294 311238	Social Services Headquarters Irvine – 01294 317700	Victim Support Irvine 01294 - 277040
James Watt College Kilwinning – 01294 559000	Penumbra North Ayrshire Self Harm Project Glasgow – 0141 229 2580	Stroke Support Group Irvine – 01294 323037	West Kilbride Carers Support 01294 311333

USEFUL LOCAL CONTACTS IF YOU ARE A CARER WHO LIVES IN NORTH AYRSHIRE			APPENDIX ii
K A Leisure (Magnum Leisure Centre) Irvine – 01294 278381	Pupil Support Service Auchenharvie – 01294 470143	TACT Ardrossan – 01294 443044	Who Cares Scotland? Kilmarnock – 01563 573015
Kilbirnie Carers Support 01294 311333	Richmond Fellowship Irvine – 01294 276364	The Butterfly Club Ardrossan – 01294 686021	Women's Aid Saltcoats – 01294 602424
Largs Carers Support Brooksby Centre (1 st , 2 nd & 4 th Wed - 10am) 01294 311333	Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH) Irvine – 01294 312242	The Salvation Army Saltcoats – 01294 467169	LBGT Youth Scotland North Ayrshire Contact Donna – 01294 472251
Opportunities in Retirement Largs – 0752 627 9933	Scottish Huntington's Association Irvine – 01294 276430	Three Towns Carers Support 01294 311333	Equality Network Edinburgh 0131 467 6039

POLICY/LEGISLATION	OVERVIEW	APPENDIX III
NHS Reform (Scotland) Act 2004; and	Local Authorities, Health and other support agencies must recognise and treat carers as key partners in the provision of care and for carers to be involved in the planning and development of services.	
Changing Lives: 21st Century Social Work Review		
Carers (Recognition and Services) Act 1995	Amended S12 of the Social Work Scotland Act 1968 defines the rights of carers to request an assessment of their needs.	
Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act 2002	Introduced adult carers, who provide substantial and regular care, to a carer's assessment, even when the person they care for does not wish an assessment and subsequently develop a carer's support plan. The same was extended to young carers under sixteen years. The Act gave Local Authorities the duty to inform of this right and take into account the contribution of carers in the assessment of the cared for person before deciding on services. Health Boards were required to provide 'Carers information strategies' informing carers of their right to assessment.	
Carers (Equal Opportunities) Act 2004	Placed three main changes to the existing law around carers services as follows; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duty on Councils to inform carers, in certain circumstances, of their right to an assessment of their needs. • When assessing a carer's needs, Councils must take into account whether the carer works or wishes to work, undertakes or wishes to undertake education, training or leisure activities. • Facilitated co-operation between authorities for the provision of services relevant to carers. 	
Care 21: the future of unpaid care in Scotland	Commissioned by the Scottish Executive in 2004 and concluded from their extensive study with twenty-two recommendations. The Executive chose to focus on four priority areas: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training opportunities for carers. 2. Breaks from caring. 3. Young carers 4. Carer's health. 	
Joint Future Agenda	Brought together Social Work, Health and Housing to: - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support more people at home as an alternative to residential and nursing care • Assist people to live independent lives by reducing inappropriate hospital admissions and enabling supported and faster discharge from hospital • Ensure people receive an improved quality of care though faster access to services and better quality services • Better involvement and support of carers. 	

POLICY/LEGISLATION	OVERVIEW	APPENDIX III
UN convention on the rights of the child	<p>Applicable to young carers, in particular, the following points: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The right to life and the best possible chance to develop fully. • The right to rest and play and to have the chance to join a wide range of activities. • The right to protection from doing work that could be dangerous or which could harm their health or interfere with their education. • The right to express a view about the things that affect them. 	
Children (Scotland) Act 1995, Section 23(1)	<p>Places a duty on Local Authorities to provide services designed to: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise the effect on any child who is affected by the disability of another person. • Give those children the opportunity to lead lives which are as normal as possible. <p>The Act also states that all young carers have the right to their needs being assessed.</p> <p>Community Care Direct Payments Act 1996 gave Local Authorities the power to make direct payments to disabled people with Community Care needs and expanded in 2000 to include people over sixty-five.</p> <p>The Community Care and Health (Scotland) Act 2002, section 7 allowed direct payments to be more widely available to people that use Community Care and Children's services. Since 2003 Local Authorities have had a duty to provide direct payments to those individuals who fit the criteria and this was extended to older people in 2005. It provided options for clients including employing their own paid carers.</p>	
Social Care (Self Directed Support) Act 2013	<p>Provides four options to service users and carers to manage their own care. These options are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The use of a direct payment by the Local Authority to the supported person for the provision of support. • The selection of support by the supported person and the making of arrangements for the provision of the local authority on behalf of the supported person. • The selection of support and the making of arrangements for the provision of it by the Local Authority. • The selection by the supported person of a combination of the above options for each type of support. 	

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 14

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Housing Support Contracts**

Purpose: To seek approval to negotiate a one year extension to the existing homeless support contracts.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet gives approval to negotiate a one year extension to the existing homeless support contracts.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 North Ayrshire Council has a statutory duty to provide a homeless service. This includes the provision of client assessments, case management and the supply of temporary and permanent accommodation.
- 1.2 There are currently 264 units of temporary accommodation in North Ayrshire, of which 166 are dispersed flats. The balance is made up of supported accommodation provided by the Council and its partner agencies, including Cunninghame Housing Association and voluntary organisations.
- 1.3 In addition to the above, there is now a statutory requirement to carry out an assessment of support needs for all homeless households who present to the Council and, if a support need is identified, to provide the appropriate support.
- 1.4 In order to supplement this service and provide support in more specialised areas, various contracts are in place with external service providers. A breakdown of the contract costs for the external support providers can be found at Appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.5 Contracts for the external providers were initially awarded in April 2009 for a period of 3 years, with an expiry date of 31 March 2012. A report was submitted to the Council's former Executive in January 2012 seeking a two year extension to the external housing support contracts. The extension was sought due to the uncertainty around the impending welfare reform changes and the requirement to develop a new NAC Temporary Accommodation Strategy.

- 1.6 The former Executive duly approved the extension period which is due to lapse on 31 March 2014. There is now a requirement to provide a further extension to the contracts or undertake a tender process on the open market.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 Although a certain amount of clarity has now been provided around the impact of welfare reform on the homelessness service, there is still some uncertainty regarding the classification of 'exempt supported accommodation'.
- 2.2 The Department of Work & Pensions (DWP) guidance defines 'exempt supported accommodation' as "accommodation provided by a non-metropolitan county council in England, a housing association, a registered charity or voluntary organisation where that body or a person acting on its behalf also provides the claimant with care, support or supervision". This current definition does not include local authorities, despite the same services being offered to the same client base at a lower cost.
- 2.3 Under the current reforms, temporary accommodation provided by Registered Social Landlord's (RSL's) and Voluntary Organisations are classified as supported exempt accommodation and, as such, they are not negatively impacted by the under occupation penalty, the benefit cap or the forthcoming universal credit.
- 2.4 Various representations have been made, both at a national and local level, to Lord Freud, the Minister responsible for Welfare Reform, detailing the level of concern in Scotland regarding the potential impact of the welfare reform changes on local authority homeless service provision.
- 2.5 Housing Services has undertaken detailed financial analysis and modelling to ascertain the potential impact each element of the welfare reform changes could have on service provision. This has been a constantly changing picture due to the lack of clarity on the proposed reforms, the timing of their introduction and the interpretation of what constitutes 'exempt supported accommodation'.

Under Occupation & Benefit Cap

- 2.6 The under occupation penalty introduced in April 2013 has had a significant impact on the benefit entitlement of tenants in local authority owned temporary furnished accommodation. The stock profile of temporary furnished accommodation is predominantly properties with two bedrooms or more.

- 2.7 Given the nature of this accommodation, rental charges are significantly higher than main stream stock and the impact of a percentage reduction in housing benefit is, therefore, significantly higher. The impact of under occupation by one and two bedrooms in a temporary furnished property equates to a weekly penalty of £40 and £71 respectively. The 2013/14 budget made provision for a £260,000 reduction in income due to the under occupation penalty.
- 2.8 In April 2013, Cabinet approved the proposal that the Council will not pursue under occupation arrears within temporary accommodation until further guidance was received clarifying the classification of this type of accommodation and whether it will be exempt from the current welfare reforms.
- 2.9 Further financial analysis based on the current stock profile of temporary accommodation has determined that the benefit cap is likely to have an annual impact of circa £20,000.

Universal Credit & Local Housing Allowance

- 2.10 Following the completion of various pilot schemes Universal Credit (UC) will be rolled-out to some designated areas from October 2013. Implementation will be staggered, with Inverness being the first Scottish site to introduce the payment type to new single clients only.
- 2.11 Recent correspondence suggests that UC may not be introduced fully until 2015/16. However there is still a great deal of uncertainty around this and, as a consequence, effective financial planning is extremely problematic.
- 2.12 UC involves a direct payment of all benefits, including housing benefit to the claimant. Given the turnover of clients within temporary accommodation, it is likely that these clients will be affected early in the roll out of UC across North Ayrshire.
- 2.13 Many homeless households have chaotic lifestyles and this may be compounded by a switch to monthly direct payment of benefits. This also presents a financial risk to the Council as this income is no longer within our control. Some exemptions will be given for direct payment of the housing element of UC to be paid directly to the Council; however, the process for this is not yet clear and the qualifying client group not identified.
- 2.14 The DWP has also announced that UC claimants placed in (non-exempt) temporary accommodation will receive their housing costs through UC, based on the appropriate Local Housing Allowance rate. The management element for temporary accommodation costs will be separated out and paid directly to local authorities.

- 2.15 The introduction of Local Housing Allowance (LHA) for temporary accommodation will have the most significant financial impact of all the welfare reforms. This reform stipulates that rental charges must be 90% of the current LHA plus a management fee of £60. The current charge for temporary accommodation is £286.58 per week, which reflects the additional costs involved in providing furnished accommodation with the required support for this tenant group.
- 2.16 Following the introduction of the LHA rate, the maximum charge for a two bedroom property will be 90% of the appropriate LHA rate plus a £60 management fee. This equates to around £148 per week which, over the period of one year, would result in a drop in income from around £2.5 million in 2013/14 to approximately £1.2 million following the introduction of this reform.

Future Funding and Service Delivery

- 2.17 Delivery of the homelessness service is currently self-financing through the rental income generated from the temporary furnished provision. Any reduction in income will have a significant impact on the Council's ability to continue with the existing service delivery.
- 2.18 Given the projected reduction in rental income, a fundamental review of existing services is required. This will encompass what part external providers will play in the provision of temporary accommodation and support services.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 Due to the uncertainty regarding the timelines for the introduction of key reforms such as Universal Credit and the Local Housing Allowance, it is proposed that an extension of one year is negotiated to the current support provider contracts. This will allow a full and detailed assessment of the homelessness provision, informed by more accurate financial information as well as clarification from the UK Government regarding the classification of Scottish local authority temporary accommodation.
- 3.2 As evidenced through previously completed modelling and financial analysis, the impact on the Council's homelessness function will be considerable. Funding options are currently being explored which will inevitably impact the future shape of both internal and external services.
- 3.3 If an extension is not granted for these contracts, a full tender process will be initiated; however the Council is not in a position to stipulate the specifications for such contracts due to the uncertainty of the future service requirements and funding availability.
- 3.4 The Cabinet is invited to give approval to negotiate a one year extension to the existing homeless support contracts.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There is sufficient budget provision to continue with the above detailed contracts in 2014/15.
- 4.2 There is a great deal of uncertainty regarding introductory timescales, exemptions for direct payment and indeed the categorisation of exempt supported accommodation. As a result, any figures detailed in this report are indicative only and based on the information that is currently available.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.3 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

- 4.4 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality Implications

- 4.5 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications

- 4.6 There are no environmental implications.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.7 An extension to the existing homeless support contracts would help support the aims and objectives within the under noted plans:
 - North Ayrshire's Single Outcome Agreement - (7a) Levels of homelessness have reduced
 - Council Plan - Protecting vulnerable people

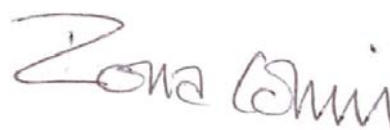
5. Consultations

- 5.1 In the preparation of this report consultation has taken place with the required Council services and departments including:
 - Finance & Property: Revenues & Benefits
 - Finance & Property: Procurement
 - Finance & Property: Accountancy

- 5.2 Following consideration of the issues detailed within this report the Corporate Procurement Unit has agreed that a formal tender process should be undertaken at such time as the future needs of the Council for these services, and the availability of budgets, can be more accurately determined. In the interim a short term extension to the existing arrangements will ensure the Council continues to meet the needs of service users.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Approval of the recommendations within this report will ensure that the Council continues to deliver an effective and efficient temporary accommodation and support service while undertaking a full evaluation of future service provision.



IONA COLVIN

Corporate Director (Social Services and Health)

Reference :

For further information please contact Alex Adrain, Interim Head of Service on telephone number 01294 324641

Background Papers

none

Appendix 1 External Homeless Support Contracts

External Provider	Function/Service Provision	Budget 2013/14
Barnardos	Specialises in supporting families who are threatened with homelessness.	£255,200
CHAP Advocacy and Education	Offers tenancy support to clients in their own home Supports social inclusion	£128,980
Quarriers	Operates homeless hostel accommodation and support at Kilwinning and Saltcoats working with young people aged 16-25 years.	£720,984
Cunninghame Housing Association	Victoria House hostel accommodation for a diverse client group.	£543,151
North Ayrshire Women's Aid	Provides refuge, support and information to women and children experiencing domestic abuse.	£776,707

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 15

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **South West Hub Territory Partnership Board held on 6 June 2013**

Purpose: To submit the minutes of the Meeting of the South West Hub Territory Partnering Board held on 6 June 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees to note the Minutes attached at Appendix 1.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 South West Hub is a partnership vehicle through which the Council can procure its capital projects. Three current Council projects are being progressed through this route: the new Arran care home, the Garnock campus and the Three Towns schools project.
- 1.2 The South West Hub Territory Partnering Board (TPB) comprises of representatives from each of the constituent public bodies. The Board meets regularly to consider appropriate strategic issues and also review the pipeline of work available to Hub. The most recent meeting was held on 6 June 2013.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The main business of the meeting of the TPB of 6 June 2013 comprised:-
 - an overview of progress on collaboration by the five local authorities involved in the Scottish Futures Trust schools programme;
 - updates on three NHS projects, including the Ardrossan Medical Centre project being led by Irvine Bay;
 - an update on progress on the planned new care home to replace Montrose House, Arran;
 - information on South Ayrshire Council's office rationalisation plans; and
 - details of Scottish Future Trust's current work programme.
- 2.2 The Minute of the meeting is attached at Appendix 1.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 That the Cabinet agrees to note the Minute attached at Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental Implications

Implications for Key Priorities

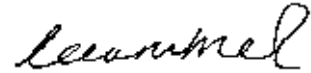
- 4.6 There are no implications.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 No consultations were required in the preparation of this report.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The attached Minute is submitted for information.



LAURA FRIEL
Corporate Director (Finance and Corporate Support)

Reference :

For further information please contact Yvonne Baulk, Head of Finance & Property on telephone number 01294 324542.

Background Papers

None

Minutes of Meeting of the Territory Partnering Board
Held on 6th June 2013 at 10:30am in De Walden Suite, Dower House, Dean
Castle Country Park, Dean Road, Kilmarnock, KA3 1XB (East Ayrshire Council)

Attendees

Name	Organisation	Initials
David Browning (Acting Chair)	NHS Lanarkshire	DB
Ian Bryden	NHS Dumfries & Galloway	IB
Gillian Jewell	Scottish Court Services	GJ
Robin McNaught	State Hospital for Scotland	RM
Derek Craig	South Lanarkshire Council	DC
Yvonne Baulk	North Ayrshire Council	YB
James King	Scottish Futures Trust	JK
Bill Martin	South West hub	BM
Michael McBrearty	South West hub	MMcB
John Quinn	South West hub	JQ
Mary Anne Robb	North Lanarkshire Council	MAR
Arthur Watson	Irvine Bay Regeneration Company	AW
Alistair Kidd	East Ayrshire Council	AK

Apologies Received

Name	Organisation
Rhona Wells	Dumfries & Galloway Council
John Wright	NHS Ayrshire & Arran
Donald Gillies	South Ayrshire Council
Audrey Christie	South West hub
David Orr	Scottish Ambulance Service

1. Welcome & Introductions

David Browning (Acting Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies.

2. Review of Last Meeting Notes – 25th April 2013

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of events.

3. Matters Arising from Last Meeting

Copies of Presentations from Ethan Eger (Equitix) Non Domestic Efficiency Fund and Stephen Bell (South Lanarkshire Council) Security Strategy Efficiency have been sent out to all TPB members.

Next meeting will consider the first 6 month hubco progress report.

BM/MMcB

Buzzsaw training is being rolled out locally.

4. Long Term Running Actions

No points noted

5. SWhub / TPD Report

Highlights in Period

Schools Collaboration:

The 1st SRO meeting was held on 1 May 2013.

Collaboration workshop held on 16 May 2013 between HUBCO, Participants, SFT and the Tier 1 Contractors. Outcomes : Agreement on the need to procure an 'Executive Architect'; Schools to be procured on a single LA basis with an acknowledgement that Dalbeattie may need to be included with another authority due to funding requirements. T1 Contractor offered free resource (approx. 6 months) to assist in the schools development to maximise procurement, programme, and buildability benefits. General agreement in principle reached relating to single appointment of local authority advisers for legal & financial support. hubco agreed in principle to replicate this approach.

NHSL T1 Contractor Grahams East Kilbride/Wishaw/Kilsyth HC's:

Stage 1 Approval received. FM Contractor tender returns due Tuesday 4th June 2013 following period of dialogue with the bidders. Appointment due 1 week thereafter. Stage 2 completion extended by mutual agreement to 26 July 2013 with Financial Close on target for November 2013. Regular work streams on-going to address legal, financial & technical aspects of the contract. Launch day held on 7 May 2013 which included a presentation by hubco and their supply chain. Aviva confirmed as funder.

Irvine Bay: T1 Contractor Morrisons Ardrossan Medical Centre

Irvine Annickbank NPR accepted in period. Combined Stage 1/2 submission due in 5 weeks time. Construction start date due August 2013.

NAC: T1 Contractor Kier Montrose House: - hub received verbal approval to proceed. NAC to issue revised affordability cap. Draft issued for approval. Thereafter hub to accept NPR. Combine stage 1/2 submission to be issued 4 weeks later. Discussion on-going regarding potential for early works. Kier notified as preferred contractor.

NHSD&G T1 Contractor Ashleigh Dalbeattie & Dunscore: hubco have issued Stage 2 submission. Further discussions on-going relating to achieving stage 2 approval. Project specific discussions relating to DBDA on-going also. Process highlighted additional consideration required when combining 2 projects into one contract.

SAC Office Rationalisation SSS: Currie and Brown appointed in period to provide PM services. This was done via a competitive tendering process including Mott McDonald, Mace & Capita. 1st Draft report due 7 June 2013, prior to submission to Council committee at end June 2013.

Schools Project Update

NAC:- Garnock and 3 Towns Campuses Request for Strategic Services issued in period for both Garnock & 3 Towns. It has been agreed to run this competitively across the 3 Tier 1 Contractors. Although this is for a pre-NPR discreet element of work, the process will follow the NPR process with respect to the appointment of a T1 D&B contractor. This will enable significant programme benefits. Meeting set up between hubco and NAC on Monday 3 June 2013 to agree scope & programme dates. hubco attended public consultation meeting.

NLC Clyde Valley Campus Greenfaulds Secondary School: Julie Heron has met with SFT in period to agree content relating to affordability cap within NPR. Hubco expect issue of NPR today.

D&GC: Dalbeattie Campus: Mott McDonald & Archial Architects providing upfront strategic service report to facilitate issue of NPR. Key dates: D&G wish to close project by June 2014. D&G require to resolve land purchase for identified site. Hubco asked to help facilitate this.

D&G Dumfries Learning Town: Initial meeting held to review requirement of strategic services. Potential to commence Strategic services at end June 2013. NPR expected April 2014.

Project bible received and is available on buzzsaw. AC preparing disc copies for Participants.

AC

Participant engagement: Meetings took place with Fiona Lees, John Wright, Robin McNaught, Ian Morris & Snr Management team at East Ayrshire Council.

Business Development: Hubco and the T1 Contractors held a very productive 1 day workshop to review and agree marketing strategy of hub SW.

MTB event: hubco presented at a national MTB event at Hampden park held on 30/4/2013.

Scottish Government Construction Procurement review: BM & MMcB participated in discussions with Robin Crawford of the Scottish Government to assist with his review/report. This facilitated us to sell the real benefits of what is being achieved at hub SW. hub SW have agreed to sponsor in conjunction with the other 4 hubs

the Annual Public Sector and Estates conference in Glasgow. This involves participating on the Plenary and participating in workshops.

Additional Resource: the Supplier Chain Development Manager post has been filled in the period (Gordon Hunter). This post is being funded by the T1 contractors. Advert has been posted for a skills Co-ordinator.

6. Scottish Futures Trust Update

Asset Management ongoing. Place based review, NHS disposals strategy.

National Housing Trust Robertson Homes appointed in D&G.

The TIF for Ravenscraig is still ongoing.

Waste Sector Clyde Valley Collaborative residual waste project.

Energy Efficiencies low carbon NHS Estate.

NPD Projects DGRI bus case to CIG OJEU end of June.

NHS A&A shortlist 3 bidders submitting early Dec 2013.

Colleges Kilmarnock College 2013 OJEU to FC 17 months. Inverness College FC end May 2013.

7. AOCB

Remit of Board discussed in particular with reference to its role in supporting collaboration across the territory and generating future opportunities for hubco.

Frequency of meetings was also discussed with consideration to possibly increase meeting schedule to every 3 months with other collaboration focused meetings at a more local level.

DB indicated that NHS Lan PAMS expired Mar 2013 next one due and hubco to be invited to attend events that contribute to that.

Craig Marriott to be invited to a future Board meeting to provide a Directors View of Life in hubco.

AC

8. Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Territory Partnering Board will take place on 29th August 2013 at 10am, South Ayrshire Council, Maybole Committee Room, County Buildings, Wellington Square, Ayr. KA7 1DR.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 16

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Economy and Employment Policy Board**

Purpose: To submit the Minute of the meeting of the Economy and Employment Policy Board held on 19 August 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet notes the Minute attached at Appendix 1.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Economy and Employment Policy Board is one of six new Policy Boards operated by the Council.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 A meeting of the Economy and Employment Policy Board was held on 19 August 2013.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to note the Minute attached at Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising at this time.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications arising at this time.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications arising at this time.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications arising at this time.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications arising at this time.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 Economic Regeneration is a key priority for the Council.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 No consultations have been undertaken at this time.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The attached Minute is submitted for information.



CRAIG HATTON

Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : CH/LB

For further information please contact Karen Yeomans, Head of Service
(Development Planning) on telephone number 01294 324308

Background Papers

N/A

At a meeting of the Economy & Employment Policy Board of North Ayrshire Council held on Monday 19 August 2013 in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Members Present:

Councillor John Bell; Councillor Marie Burns, Councillor John Easdale, Councillor Alex Gallagher, Councillor Elizabeth McLardy, Councillor Peter McNamara, Councillor David O'Neill.

In Attendance:

Alasdair Laurenson Team Leader Planning, David Hammond Team Leader Planning, Fiona Millar Administration Assistant.

Chair

Councillor Marie Burns

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Willie Gibson, Craig Hatton, Councillor Alex McLean, Karen Yeomans.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Economy and Employment Policy Board held on 18 March were confirmed.

2. Presentation: Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study

Esther Howe URS gave a presentation on Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study

The presentation looked at the following points

1. Aims
2. Study Areas
3. Commercial and Technical Viability Assessment
4. Appraisal Summary
5. Headline findings
6. Recommendations
 - Role of the Public Sector
7. Next Steps

Discussion was held on the proposal to the Local Development Planning Committee meeting on Wednesday 28 August 2013. Draft National Planning Framework 3: Supplementary Consultation Response

The Hunterston Competitive Advantage Study has identified several potential energy related future uses for the Hunterston site that are viable medium to longer term opportunities which may secure significant new employment creation. In seeking recognition of the site's potential through inclusion in NPF3 as a National Development for an 'Energy Hub' added certainty and profile for Hunterston as a location to invest for operators would be provided.

A number of questions were raised in respect of Maritime decommissioning. Members highlighted the need for development and research into new technologies.

All Members agreed that decommissioning was a contentious matter, and it was agreed to provide Members, with a brief note on the wider issues around decommissioning.

There was a broad consensus to support the Energy Hub at the Local Development Planning Committee on Wednesday 28 August 2013.

3. Any other Business

None

The meeting ended at 3.40 p.m.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 17

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Ayrshire Economic Partnership**

Purpose: To submit minutes of the Meeting of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership held on 21 August 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet notes the Minutes attached at Appendix 1.

1. Introduction

1.1 The Ayrshire Economic Partnership was established several years ago to promote Economic Development across Ayrshire. The approach has focused on sector development:

- Renewable Energy;
- Food and Drink;
- Engineering;
- Tourism.

2. Current Position

2.1 The Ayrshire Economic Partnership last met on 21 August 2013 and meets approximately every two months.

3. Proposals

3.1 The Cabinet is invited to note the Minutes attached at Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Human Resource Implications

4.2 There are no human resource implications arising from this report.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications arising from this report.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 There are no implications for key priorities arising from this report.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 No consultation was undertaken in the production of this report.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The attached minutes are submitted for information.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : KY/FM

For further information please contact Karen Yeomans, Head of Service
(Development Planning) on telephone number 01294 324308

Background Papers

N/A

At a meeting of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership on **Wednesday 21 August 2013** at **5.30 p.m.** In the Girvan Room, South Ayrshire Council Headquarters, Ayr, Wellington Square, KA7 1DR.

Present:	Councillor Bill McIntosh (South Ayrshire Council) Eilleen Howat (South Ayrshire Council) Lesley Bloomer (South Ayrshire Council) Tricia Irving (South Ayrshire Council) Jim English (Chair, Engineering Leadership Group) Councillor William Gibson (North Ayrshire Council) Craig Hatton (North Ayrshire Council) Councillor Bill McIntosh (South Ayrshire Council) Councillor Douglas Reid (East Ayrshire Council) Elizabeth Morton(East Ayrshire Council) Sharon Hodgson (East Ayrshire Council) Bill Costley (Private Sector) Heather Dunk (Principal Ayrshire Colleges) Jim Reid (Scottish Enterprise) Willie Mackie (Taste Ayrshire) Val Russell (Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry) Ros Halley (Ayrshire & Arran Tourism Manager) Douglas Boatman (Federation of Small Businesses)	
Apologies:	Alan Niesh (East Ayrshire Council) Donna Higgins (Private Sector) Elma Murray (North Ayrshire Council) Fiona Lees (East Ayrshire Council) Gordon McGuinness; (Skills Development Scotland) Karen Yeomans (North Ayrshire Council) Martin Little (Federation of Small Businesses)	
In Attendance:	Fiona Millar (North Ayrshire Council)	
ACTIONS AGREED		
	Action Required	Responsible
1.	<u>Actions from Previous Meeting: 26 June 2013</u> The Action Note arising from the AEP meeting held on 26 June 2013. Heather Dunk enquired about the wage incentive programme and the progress on the actions. The wage incentive programme and progress on the actions will be sent by Friday 23 July 2013	

	<p>The Partnership were advised on the challenges for Ayrshire College along with key statistics 14,000 students, c800 full time members staff, an annual turnover of £42m, with £10m student funding and in the year 2012-13 69% of full time students were aged between 16-24 year old.</p> <p>The Partnership were informed of £1/4m funding for engineering.</p> <p>Discussion was held on the college providing specific courses for the trades. The Partnership were advised there were a broad base of courses available at all campuses, but specialist courses were available in sport and engineering at the Kilmarnock campus with a specific need to develop hospitality at Kilwinning.</p> <p>H Dunk offered to accommodate the Partnership members or anyone wishing to visit any of the 3 Ayrshire campuses and the 5 satellite campuses.</p>	
4	<p><u>Presentation Global Scot Engagement</u> Jim Reid gave a presentation on Global Scot Engagement.</p> <p>The presentation looked at the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who are Global Scot Engagement An International Business Network (Founded in 2001) with the objectives of Harnessing the Drive, Ambition and Talent of High Profile, Successful Scots (and those with an Affinity with Scotland) who are committed to Advancing Scotland's Economic Success. • Where: they have 680 globally based members around the world. • What; they offer Advice, Aspirations & Access <p>The Partnership were advised on Global Network's success with Scottish Companies, an example of which is Mackie's Marmalade, whose biggest market is United States of America (USA). The Partnership asked for the case studies to be circulated to the members.</p> <p>Discussion was held on Investment Propositions and it was agreed that the 3 Chief Executive's would follow this up.</p> <p>The Partnership discussed the idea of using the Global Scot Engagement in Ayrshire's sector groups, and for this to be a future agenda item.</p> <p>The Partnership agreed to take this forward.</p>	<p>Jim Reid</p> <p>Chief Executives' of the 3 Authorities Fiona Millar</p> <p>Jim Reid</p>

5.	<p><u>Food and Drink Strategy</u></p> <p>Sharon Hodgson gave an update on the Food and Drink Strategy.</p> <p>Since the last AEP meeting in April a consultation exercise has been completed and the document presented to the Partnership reflects this process.</p> <p>Two Ayrshire organisations have secured additional funding from the Scottish Government from its Think Local Programme and the Chamber of Commerce has attracted funding to undertake study into the sector locally. This project will provide intelligence to support the Food and Drink Strategy and Action Plan.</p> <p>Discussion was held on the Food and Drink Strategy and it was highlighted the Taste Ayrshire Event in Largs on Sunday 18 August 2013, whilst very successful could have been even better if greater co-ordinated and joint working was in place. Not only in the detailing of this event but also the conflict with other events in Ayrshire and the wider area. Renfrewshire was held as an example</p> <p>It was highlighted there was an opportunity to evaluate the Largs event and take forward the developments and toolkits for future events.</p>	Karen Yeomans
6	<p><u>Presentation: Final Proposal & Implementation of the Engineering Strategy</u></p> <p>Tricia Irving and Jim English gave a joint presentation on the Final Proposal & Implementation of the Engineering Strategy.</p> <p>Engineering in Ayrshire employs some 6,600 people and generates wealth of £380m per annum. The sector has some significant strengths some excellent companies with leading practices, strong leaders and some very good supporting infrastructure most notably skills development.</p> <p>The Private sector firms are forming preliminary Engineering Leadership Groups with Jim English as Chair.</p> <p>The proposed approach to implementation and associated LEAD Partners for each of the workstreams which, the first four have already agreed to fulfil this role.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skills Supply - Ayrshire College • Business Improvement - Scottish Manufacturing Advisory Service - (SMAS) 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaboration & Supply Chain - Centre for Engineering Education and Development (CEED) • Innovation - University of the West of Scotland (UWS) • Investment & Trade – Sector Co-ordinator <p>The Partnership agreed to Endorse the Engineering sector development strategy for implementation.</p>	
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7	<p><u>Thematic Updates</u></p> <p>7 a) Renewables</p> <p>Discussion on contents of the Renewables paper were agreed and noted.</p> <p>7 b) Tourism</p> <p>Discussion on the contents of the Tourism paper were noted.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
7.	<u>AOCB</u>	
8..	<p><u>Next Meeting</u></p> <p>The next meeting of the Ayrshire Economic Partnership will be held on Wednesday 23 October 2013 at 5.30 p.m. in North Ayrshire Council Headquarters, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE.</p>	

CH/fm

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 18

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Health and Social Care Policy Board : Minutes of Meeting held on 26 August 2013.**

Purpose: To submit the Minutes of the Health and Social Care Policy Board held on 26 August 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet agrees to note the Minutes set out at Appendix 1.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Health and Social Care Policy Board met on 26 August 2013.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 The Minutes of the Health and Social Care Policy Board which met on 26 August 2013 are attached as Appendix 1.
- 2.2 The key issues discussed were :-
- Whole Systems Approach
 - Welfare Reform
 - Integration of Health and Social Care.

3. Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed that Cabinet notes the Minutes set out at Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from the report.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications arising from the report.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications arising from the report.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications arising from the report.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications arising from the report.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 There are no key priorities arising from this report.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 None required.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 That the Cabinet notes the Minutes.



IONA COLVIN

Corporate Director (Social Services and Health)

Reference : IC/KA

For further information please contact Iona Colvin, Corporate Director (Social Services & Health) on telephone number 01294 317723

Background Papers

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Health and Social Care Policy Board
Monday 26th August 2013

At a meeting of the **Health and Social Care Policy Board** of North Ayrshire Council held on Monday 26th August 2013 at 2.00 p.m., in Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Members Present:

Anthea Dickson, Catherine McMillan, Alan Munro, Donald Reid, Jim Montgomerie, Irene Oldfather

In Attendance:

Iona Colvin, Corporate Director (Social Services & Health), Stephen Brown, Senior Manager, Children & Families (Fieldwork Specialist Support), Mark Inglis, Team Manager, Children & Families (Fieldwork Specialist Support), Marianne McManus, Divisional Manager (Housing), Karen Andrews, Business Support Officer

Chair

Councillor Dickson in the Chair.

Apologies for Absence:

Ruth Maguire, Tom Marshall

1. Minute of Meeting held on 27th May 2013

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Health and Social Care Policy Board held on the 27th May 2013 were confirmed.

2. Whole Systems Approach (WSA) – Annual Report

Presentation by Stephen Brown, Senior Manager and Mark Inglis, Team Manager, Children & Families (Fieldwork Specialist Support) in relation to the Whole Systems Approach. The approach is used to work with children under the age of 18 years and aims to reduce reoffending behaviour or those presenting a high level of risk or need associated with offending behaviour.

Elected Members asked questions and received clarification in relation to the following :-

- 9% of all 19 year olds in Scotland have a criminal conviction. Stephen Brown advised that is the national figure, however North Ayrshire's figure is comparable with this.
- Mark Inglis advised that the young people involved in the Whole System Approach are known to social services, predominantly those on home supervision orders. Iona Colvin advised that the service is considering how to intervene with these children and families at an earlier stage.

- Stephen Brown confirmed that social services link closely with education and skills colleagues, including teachers within primary schools, to intervene at an earlier stage.
- The importance of integration within communities was discussed, including helping these young people work towards obtaining employment.
- The resources targeted at this approach will prevent young people being admitted to residential and secure establishments which are extremely expensive.

3. Welfare Reform

Presentation by Marianne McManus, Divisional Manager (Housing) in relation to the impact of Welfare Reform within North Ayrshire.

Marianne McManus gave background to the Welfare Reform legislation, the criteria and timeline associated with the Act. Marianne provided statistics and information in relation to the key reforms, namely :-

- Bedroom Tax
- Benefit Cap
- Universal Credit
- Payment Arrangements
- Personal Independence Payments
- Increase in non dependent charges
- Changes to Tax Credits
- Council Tax Reduction Scheme
- Shared Accommodation Rate for Under 35
- Scottish Welfare Fund
- Crisis Grants
- Community Care Grants.

Elected members asked questions and received clarification in relation to the above and specifically in relation to :-

- Lack of consistency in sanctions imposed by the Job Centre when constituents are seeking employment. Marianne McManus advised that North Ayrshire Council is working with DWP in terms of support services, but is not aware of any issues.
- NACAS service will assist local communities in relation to welfare reform issues. Social Services and Housing tenants can receive support and advice from the Council's Money Matters Team.

4. Integration

Presentation by Iona Colvin, Corporate Director on the Integration of Health and Social Care. Iona Colvin advised that a report will be submitted to the Council on 18th September 2013 to agree the establishment of the Transitional Integration Board.

Elected Members asked question and received clarification in relation to :-

- Elected member representation on the new Transitional Integration Board. The board will comprise 4 x Elected members and 4 x Health Board members. These members will all have voting rights.
- Governance arrangements need to be finalised.
- Agreement on which services will be within the partnership.
- Budgets.
- Hosting arrangements.
- Role of Policy Boards in relation to the Transitional Integration Board. It was agreed that over the next 6 months discussion will take place in relation to the role of the Health and Social Care Policy Board.
- The Joint Accountable Officer should be appointed by October 2013. At the moment it is anticipated that this will be an internal appointment between NHS Ayrshire and Arran and North Ayrshire Council.

5. Any Other Competent Business

Councillor Donald Reid requested that the Council's policy on repairs on mutually exchanged properties be discussed.

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next Health and Social Care Policy Board meeting will be held on **Monday 7th October 2013 at 2.00 p.m., Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine.**

The meeting concluded at 3.45 p.m.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 19

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board held on 2 September 2013**

Purpose: To submit the minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board held on 2 September 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet notes the minutes attached at Appendix 1.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board is one of six Policy Boards formed by the Council following the elections in May 2012.

2. Current Position

- 2.1 A meeting of the Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board was held on 2 September 2013. At its meeting, the board considered reports in respect of:

- Scottish Government Consultation on a proposed National Litter Strategy
- Scottish Government Consultation on a proposed Marine Litter Strategy
- Update on Development of a Waste Management Plan for Arran
- Implementation of North Ayrshires Waste Management Strategy 2012 - 2016

3. Proposals

- 3.1 The Cabinet is invited to note the Minutes attached at appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 None.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 There have been no consultations in the formation of this report.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The attached Minutes are submitted for information.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : RM/JA

For further information please contact Russell McCutcheon, Head of
Environment & Related Services on telephone number 01294 541514

Background Papers

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Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board

Monday 2nd September 2013

At a meeting of the Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board of North Ayrshire Council held on Monday 2nd September, 2013 at 2pm in Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine.

Members Present:

Cllr Ian Clarkson
Cllr Anthea Dickson
Cllr John Ferguson
Cllr Peter McNamara
Cllr Jim Montgomerie
Cllr David O'Neil
Cllr Donald Reid

In Attendance:

Russell, McCutcheon, Head of Environment & Related Services
David Mackay, Waste Services Manager
Wallace Turpie, Operations Manager – Streetscene
Donald Wilson, Streetscene Manager
Jacqui Armstrong, Admin Assistant (Minutes)

Chair

Cllr John Bruce

Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Joe Cullinane
Cllr John Easdale
Cllr John Hunter
Cllr Elizabeth McLardy

The chair opened the meeting at 2pm

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 3rd June, 2013

The minutes of the previous Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board were noted.

2. Scottish Government Consultation on a proposed National Litter Strategy

R McCutcheon submitted report by Wallace Turpie, Operations Manager – Streetscene & Donald Wilson Streetscene Manager, Environment & Related Services to inform & seek the views of the Policy Board in respect of the proposal on a National Litter Strategy.

W Turpie provided update on Scottish Government Waste Consultation which he recently attended.

D Wilson said a strategy has been produced & introduced to schools on litter & recycling.

It was asked that the Policy Board notes the proposal on a National Litter Strategy.

Questions were invited from Members.

Cllr McNamara stated litter is a large problem which he considers a high priority & thinks the policy needs to be re-enforced to children when they go to secondary school.

Cllr Reid asked the cost of a permit to tip at the skip site?

D Mackay confirmed businesses are not allowed into the Household Waste Recycling Centres without a permit, it is approx. £90 for a commercial permit to tip at Shewalton Waste Transfer Station.

Cllr Bruce stated when items get dumped, we would be relying on other forces notifying us of this, which has been a problem for generations. There is also an issue with seagulls getting into the bins.

D Wilson advised new bins have been designed & are being installed.

Cllr Dickson said the policy states you will be educating schools but some parents do not show their children a good example. I believe we need something to educate the adults, possibly if caught they have to participate in the clean-up.

Cllr Clarkson advised within town centres bags are thrown out on street & not into their wheelie bin, sometimes their bins are full.

Cllr Dickson asked could food waste containers be purchased?

R McCutcheon advised commercial waste is covered within agenda item 5, our Waste Awareness Officers visit premises to offer support & advice on the management of waste. We do not collect all commercial waste from premises, some businesses use an external company.

D Mackay confirmed the Waste Awareness Officers visit premises & advise them of their legal obligations under zero waste regulations, they are advised what they must do and adhere to.

Cllrs Clarkson said there are bins being left in the streets, week after week, which causes a problem, can any enforcement be issued?

D Mackay advised this is on agenda, the Waste Collection Policy advises what households must do & what we must do.

Cllr McNamara stated he was not aware that companies could opt out of NAC collecting their commercial waste. Could we get a report to give us an idea of who uses the Council and who uses other contractors for managing their waste?

D Mackay confirmed this would be a very large task due to the number of businesses in North Ayrshire. Some larger companies have a national contract for the management of their waste.

Cllr Reid asked about the cigarette ends which are lying outside pubs, this is not targeted within report.

R McCutcheon advised there is a paper to bring to a future policy board on litter strategy and dog bin strategy. Cigarettes are included within the litter policy, we monitor cleanliness, PI's (LEAMS), a score of 67 is ok, we score 75, which is the upper quartile in Scotland. We are looking at bins with a stub out part in the bin which is covered under the litter strategy.

W Turpie advised his employees have been through training for LEAMS.

Cllr Reid asked if the Community Wardens issue fixed penalty notices?

D Wilson confirmed they had been through the required training but this is something that would need to be taken up with Housing.

Cllr Ferguson asked when the litter strategy will be effective from, what can be done on enforcements & will the procurator fiscal be on board?

R McCutcheon advised when this is effective date is something that is being worked on, we will reflect feedback on the national strategy in 5-6 months, we will lay out what can and can't be done. The procurator fiscal will be contacted to find out if we can rely on their support. We are trying to attract visitors to the area, if we can keep the area clean, this will help to attract visitors.

Cllr Bruce asked how is the chewing gum issue being dealt with?

W Turpie advised we have a new tool, it's a back pack chewing gum removal pack, it has been issued for Kilwinning, we are hoping to purchase 4 more as there is an issue within Irvine.

With no further questions the Policy Board noted the proposal.

3. Scottish Government Consultation on a proposed Marine Litter Strategy

R McCutcheon submitted report by Wallace Turpie, Operations Manager – Streetscene & Donald Wilson Streetscene Manager, Environment & Related Services to inform & seek the views of the Policy Board in respect of the proposal on a Marine Litter Strategy.

Cllr Clarkson said the only potential problem he sees arising would be within the rivers.

D Wilson confirmed the marine policy covers this.

Cllr Clarkson stated the rivers create the most difficulties.

RM confirmed there are certain areas that are dangerous.

W Turpie confirmed we currently hire a contractor when there are items that require removing within the marine, we could carry out a risk assessment and have this delivered in house but this would waste a lot of time.

Cllr Dickson asked if there is an additional charge for people who require an extra brown bin?

R McCutcheon confirmed we are keen to promote recycling within the brown bin, there needs to be a balance between people with large & small gardens. Anyone with a larger garden who require an additional bin will be charged.

Cllr Bruce said mainly the litter within the beaches are plastic bottles which could possibly be returned to stores for money.

Cllr Reid advised Tesco give 1 clubcard point for bottles & cans being recycled.

D Mackay confirmed we have piloted within schools that kids get credit to spend at the cafeteria when they recycle. Some supermarkets have this initiative but we have not signed up with them.

Cllr O'Neil stated I think the Scottish Government do something similar.

D Wilson advised there is a local initiative within West Kilbride at the early discussion stages where they will recycle, re-use & produce a piece of art (sculpture).

Cllr Bruce raised his surprise that we do not have blue flag beaches, is this worthy of a future paper?

R McCutcheon confirmed this will be added to the future agenda & advised we have a blue flag beach in Millport – Newton Beach.

D Wilson advised all beaches are cleaned to the same standard.

Cllr Bruce asked how often are the beaches cleaned?

W Turpie confirmed they are cleaned on a Mon, Wed & Fri but in the hot weather they are cleaned daily.

Cllr Bruce asked are we still happy with dog walkers on the beaches?

R McCutcheon confirmed it is the dog walker's responsibility to clean up after their dogs.

Cllr Clarkson asked is it acceptable for horses mess to be left?

R McCutcheon advised within the legislation horses mess is acceptable.

With no further questions the Policy Board noted the proposal.

4. Update on Development of a Waste Management Plan for Arran

D Mackay, Waste Services Manager, Environment & Related Services submitted report to update the Policy Board in respect of the Waste Management Plan being developed for Arran

With no questions the Policy Board noted the report.

5. Implementation of North Ayrshires Waste Management Strategy 2012-2016

R McCutcheon submitted report by David Mackay, Waste Services Manager, Environment & Related Services to inform & seek the views of the Policy Board in respect of the Implementation of North Ayrshires Waste Management Strategy 2012 - 2016.

D Mackay informs the board of the changes to the existing policy.

Discussion took place around the waste & garden refuse service.

Cllr Dickson asked how sharps are disposed of?

D Mackay confirmed this would be dealt with by a specialised contractor as the Council are not able to dispose of them.

Cllr Dickson asked about missed bins, as residents are often unsure whether to bring their bin in or leave it out as they don't know if the collection vehicle will return?

D Mackay confirmed feedback would be required from the foreman to advise the resident when to expect a collection.

Cllr Dickson asked why the solid fuel is put into the grey bin & not the brown bin?

D Mackay confirmed that ash could not be accepted and could contaminate the compost.

Cllr Clarkson asked if Community Centres get a reduced rate?

D Mackay confirmed NAC Community Centres are charged the full rate, however if the community centre was a registered charity then they would get 50% discount.

Cllr Clarkson asked if there is government funding for buying new bins?

D Mackay replied that the original Strategic Waste funding was only for 2 years any which are now required to be replaced we have to purchase from within our own budget.

Cllr Clarkson asked when bins are emptied can we ensure they are left in a position that is not a danger?

D Mackay confirmed employees are aware of this but I will have this reiterated to them.

Cllr Bruce said within Arran there are not many footpaths, bins are collected from rural routes, bins are asked to be left on the road but there is legal implications caused by this, surely the bins could be collected from the garden gate.

D Mackay replied in these circumstances there are special instructions issued i.e. for bin to be collected from garden gate.

Cllr Bruce asked who is responsible for the bin if it is left on the road?

D Mackay confirmed NAC are responsible.

Cllr Bruce stated there was talk of removing some of the bins at the bring sites on Arran and replacing them with a communal bin.

D Mackay confirmed we are currently looking at the use of the recycling bring points on Arran.

Cllr O'Neil asked with regards to the new shift pattern for waste collection is it 6 days over 7?

R McCutcheon replied it will be 4 days over 6 (Mon – Sat), off every Sunday, there was various 4 over 6 patterns, we created a work pattern and put it to the workforce & they came back with an alternative. It was also advised the waste collection will now be from 7.00am as employees start work at this time & they are keen to get the routes started as soon as they start work.

Cllr Dickson said the public won't know about the change of collection time.

R McCutcheon confirmed a communication package is being developed for the public.

Cllr Reid said as long as the public are advised they won't be bothered about the start time. Could there be a variance between summer & winter routes for garden and food waste?

R McCutcheon advised there is software to design the new routes & on the worst case scenario that these routes don't suit, the routes can be changed.

D Mackay confirmed we could have summer & winter routes if necessary for garden and food waste.

R McCutcheon stated in response to Cllr Dickson's earlier question about sharps these could be taken to GP / Health Centre. It was also advised the missed bin issue will be looked at and communication made better, will work with the contact centre; could possibly have a sticker to advise the reason the bins was not emptied i.e. too heavy etc

Cllr Clarkson said he believes there are some Community Centre's that should be receiving a reduced rate.

D Mackay advised if they provide the appropriate paperwork to show they are a registered charity then they will receive a 50% reduction.

With no further questions the Policy Board noted the report.

6. Future Agenda Items

Cllr Bruce asked if there was any preference on the future items for the next Policy Board?

R McCutcheon asked if the ACCT Hunterston paper could be presented at the next policy board?

The Policy Board agreed.

Environment

- **ACCT Hunterston – arrangements for environmental clean up after any incidents**
- **Waste Services Policy update including**
- **Waste (Scotland) Regulations**
- **Waste Collection Policy**
- **Household Waste Recycling Centre**
- **Environmental Crime, including dog fouling**
- **Litter and Dog Waste Bin Policy**

Infrastructure

- **Car Parking Strategy for North Ayrshire (ongoing)**
- **Lighting policy (rural and urban)**
- **Advertising on roundabouts**
- **Designing streets**
- **Review of winter routes**
- **Sideway force co-efficient routine investigation machines (SCRIM) policy**

Cllr Bruce thanked those in attendance & the meeting ended at 3.50pm.

The next meeting of the Environment & Infrastructure Policy Board will be held on Monday 21st October 2013 at 2.00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Cunninghame House, Irvine.

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

Agenda Item 20

25 September 2013

Cabinet

Subject: **Brodict Pier Redevelopment Group**

Purpose: To submit the Minute of the meeting of the Brodict Pier Redevelopment Group held on 2 August 2013.

Recommendation: That the Cabinet notes the Minute attached at Appendix 1

1. Introduction

The formation of the Brodict Pier Redevelopment Group was agreed by the Cabinet on 25 June 2013.

2. Current Position

2.1 A meeting of the Brodict Pier Redevelopment Group was held on 2 August 2013. Represented on the group, are Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, Visit Arran, Transport Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The main aims of the group will initially be to:

- Confirm the exact nature of the proposals including the opportunity for reuse of the existing pier facilities for leisure based boat traffic;
- Determine the extent of economic benefit which the Pier proposals will bring to Arran and how this may be maximised;
- Examine additional sources of funding to deliver the proposals; and,
- Make the case for Scottish Government and other sources of investment to deliver the proposals within one phase of construction.

2.2 The meeting heard from EKOS Consultants Ltd who have been appointed to articulate the economic impacts of the proposals.

3. Proposals

The Cabinet is invited to note the Minute attached at Appendix 1.

4. Implications

Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising at this time.

Human Resource Implications

- 4.2 There are no human resource implications arising at this time.

Legal Implications

- 4.3 There are no legal implications arising at this time.

Equality Implications

- 4.4 There are no equality implications arising at this time.

Environmental Implications

- 4.5 There are no environmental implications arising at this time.

Implications for Key Priorities

- 4.6 There are no key priorities arising at this time.

5. Consultations

- 5.1 Represented on the group are Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, Visit Arran, Transport Scotland and Highlands and Islands Enterprise who all attended the first meeting of the Brodick Pier Redevelopment Group, which was chaired by Councillor John Bruce

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Minute attached is submitted for information.



CRAIG HATTON
Corporate Director (Development and Environment)

Reference : AL/fm

For further information please contact Alasdair Laurenson, Team Leader,
Planning on telephone number 01294 324758

Background Papers

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Meeting:	Brodict Pier Redevelopment Group	
Date/Venue:	Chief Executive's Large Meeting Room Monday 2 nd August 2013	
Present:	Councillor John Bruce - North Ayrshire Council) Karen Yeomans, Alasdair Laurenson - North Ayrshire Council Ramsay Muirhead, Guy Platten - Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd Sue Gledehill - Highlands and Islands Enterprise Alastair Dobson – Taste of Arran/Visit Arran Bob Davie - Transport Scotland Chris Kelly, Sarah Turnbull - EKOS	
Apologies:	None	
ACTIONS		
No.	Action	Responsible
1.	Welcome and Introductions	
2.	<p>Purpose/Remit of Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The terms of reference for the BPRG were suggested in outline by KY and agreed as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">To confirm the exact nature of proposals to develop the Pier including the opportunity for reuse of the existing pier facilities for leisure boat traffic;Determine the extent of economic benefit which the proposals will bring to Arran and how this may be maximised;Examine additional sources of funding to deliver the proposals; andMake the case for Scottish Government and other sources of investment to deliver the proposals within one phase of construction.Membership of the group was confirmed to include those present. It was also agreed that CalMac should be invited to future meetings to keep them informed of progress. <p>AD will give an update of the groups work to the next meeting of the Arran Ferry Committee.</p>	Alastair Dobson
3.	<p>Update from CMAL on pier redevelopment proposals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">RM gave an outline of the proposals, how they facilitate increased capacity, certainty of service and a better passenger experience. A lot of consultation has been undertaken. Plans have changed significantly over the last	

	<p>year as a result.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AD outlined the wider economic benefits to the island in terms of tourism and businesses, and stressed that a proactive approach is needed to promote these benefits and to ensure that the proposals are implemented in a single phase of construction. • The latest proposals for the Pier include minor revisions as a result of discussions with NAC Roads, SPT and TS and in relation to bus stances and other traffic issues. • CMAL are talking to NAC and a local community group on how the existing causeway may be retained or altered to provide a breakwater for pontoons/yachts. There may be a conflict between the continued use of this area for leisure traffic with the operation of the ferry service, but this is not thought to be insurmountable. • The detailed design stage will officially commence on 12th August. • A draft Harbour Revision Order has been submitted to TS, with the final order expected to be formally issued shortly. • BD noted that the group wished to deliver the proposals for Brodick within one phase of construction; however, in light of the current financial constraints within SG/TS, a phased approach was likely, unless additional funding could be provided from other sources. 	
4.	<p>Outline from EKOS on the proposed work in line with the brief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CK provided an outline of the work EKOS propose to undertake in line with their commission. • Requirements for information include technical information available from CMAL, and visitor numbers/tourism information from Visit Arran. EKOS will consult with Members of the group individually to inform their work. • Analysis of economic impacts will include various scenarios including do nothing, implementation of a partial project, and implementation of a full project, and the timing of implementation. • Analysis will be undertaken on three levels, looking at the impacts for Arran, North Ayrshire and Scotland 	

	AOCB	
	Date of Next Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 4th October at 10am. EKOS agreed to provide a draft final report in advance of this meeting and on 30th September. EKOS will then present their key findings to the group. 	